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5 August 1977

TRANSLATIONS ON NARCOTICS AND DANGEROUS DRUGS
No. 313

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AUSTRALIA

COMMISSION ESTABLISHED TO INVESTIGATE DRUG USE

Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 8 Jul 77 p 1

[Article by Ian Frykberg, State Political Correspondent]

[Text]

The Premier, Mr Wran, intends to establish a royal commission to inquire into all aspects of drug use in New South Wales.

The commission, which is expected to be set up before the end of the year, would also inquire into the trafficking of drugs.

It would inquire into police investigation methods and the alleged involvement of some police and others in the drug scene.

Mr Wran will not announce the royal commission until after the State Parliamentary joint committee inquiring into drug use has made its report. This is expected to be completed before the end of the year.

But Government sources said he had already made his decision to hold the Royal Commission.

Concern grows

Mr Wran's decision to have an inquiry follows growing concern by the Government about recent allegations of trafficking in hard drugs in NSW.

The allegations have mentioned some police officers and also businessmen as being involved.

It is also a reaction to some public concern that the Wran Government has adopted a policy of easing legal restrictions on drug users and traffickers in NSW.

Mr Wran is known to be angry at a recent letter sent by the Opposition Leader, Sir Eric Willis, to parents and citizens' organisations on the Government's actions over marihuana.

Government officials claim that Sir Eric's letter implied that the Government was legalising the use of marihuana.

The Government in April announced a two-stage plan on marihuana, the second stage of which was to remove jail sentences for people having marihuana for personal use.

It also announced, as stage one, the establishment of a drug authority to advise the Government on legal and educational aspects of drug use, its control and treatment.

Until the adoption of stage two — which would probably be in about 18 months—drug-use offenders will go to the Government's recently established drug diversionary program.

Under this program, offenders will have to report to the drug centres for eight weeks and then a report on them from the centre will be considered by the magistrate when he sentences them.

Mr Wran also has announced that the Government will increase penalties for hard drug traffickers to a maximum \$50,000 fine and/or 15 years' jail.

Opposition dissent

The present penalty is 10 years jail, or two years jail and \$2,000 fine when the prosecution elects to proceed summarily.

The new penalties were recommended by the joint parliamentary committee which also recommended the removal of jail sentences for people having marihuana for personal use.

However, the Opposition members on the committee dissented strongly from this recommendation.

Mr Wran's decision to have a Royal Commission is also indicative of the Government's concern that the public may think it is not doing anything about the drug problem in New South Wales.

It is understood that a decision has not yet been made on which judge will head the Royal Commission.

However, it is clear that the Commission's terms of references will include a provision that it report to the Government as quickly as possible.

The Government is less than delighted with the time and cost of the Royal Commission into the NSW prisons, which will have cost more than \$6 million by the time it has reported.

PEACOCK WARNS TOURISTS ON CONSEQUENCES OF DRUG USE

Canberra THE AUSTRALIAN in English 11 Jul 77 p 3

[Article by Malcolm Farr]

[Text]

THE Department of Foreign Affairs is concerned about the growing number of tourists in trouble who are forced to seek help from diplomatic posts overseas.

Australians in trouble made 23,000 consular inquiries in London alone in the last six months of last year.

Ninety Australians are in overseas prisons and the number on drug offences is increasing. About 143 were arrested on drug charges last year.

The Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr Peacock, warned yesterday that sentences were increasing in many countries and some had introduced the death penalty.

In some cases justice had not been seen to be done by Australian standards, but diplomatic officials are almost powerless to intervene.

A former Sydney man, Frederick Legg, was arrested late last year for alleged drug possession in La Paz, Bolivia.

Although no formal charges have been laid and no court hearing started, he is still in jail.

Mr Peacock's warning followed publication of a revised information booklet to be issued with passports, which has the grim pointer, "Death penalty for drug offences—page eight" on the front cover.

Mr Peacock said: "Because of the increasing number of young Australians involved in drug offences overseas, the booklet gives special emphasis to the danger of involvement in drugs, no matter how minor or how innocent."

"It warns of the severity of penalties now being imposed in more and more countries, including the death penalty, and the harsh and primitive conditions of some foreign jails."

The Department of Foreign Affairs booklet, Hints for Australian Travellers, will be issued with the 400,000 passports expected to go out in the next year.

It warns that if Australians are put into foreign jails a consul cannot intervene in the country's process of justice.

A consular official can only observe the legal proceedings of a country and cannot intervene on drug charges, which can involve the death sentence in Indonesia, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, Iran and Turkey.

The booklet says: "Many Australians mistakenly believe that other countries are less concerned about the use of prohibited drugs than in Australia."

It warns that possession of any amount or type of cannabis can carry a six-year jail penalty while buying,

transporting or selling the drug can mean life imprisonment and a \$65,000 fine.

In Singapore the illegal making of morphine can lead to the death penalty while traffickers in marijuana get 20 years' jail.

The booklet also warns travellers not to carry into a country goods for anyone else since the items may conceal drugs.

It says: "There are countries where people accused of violating a local law are presumed guilty unless able to prove innocence, and this may be extremely difficult."

AUSTRALIA

DRUG RAID: TRIAL SET FOR MAN

Melbourne THE AGE in English 6 Jul 77 p 11

[Text]

A man charged with armed robbery said he was "desperate for a hit" before he robbed a chemist of morphine and opium, Elsternwick Court was told yesterday.

The court was told the man said he had a "hit" three hours before he robbed a chemist shop on May 6, but it wasn't enough.

Raymond William Jenkins, 26, unemployed, of Elliot Street, Mordialloc, was committed for trial on charges relating to the armed robbery of a chemist shop on the corner of Grange and Glenhuntly roads, Glenhuntly.

Jenkins was charged with armed robbery, stealing drugs valued at \$50 with threat of force, stealing a car, using a stolen car to commit a felony and having gone equipped to steal.

He was also committed for trial on a charge of stealing drugs valued at \$80 from a chemist shop in Prahran on March 3.

Jenkins reserved his plea.

Bail was set at \$3000 with similar surety.

In an alleged record of interview which related to the May 6 robbery, Jenkins said he was "gone on smack" and robbing the

chemist shop was the only way he could get morphine and cocaine.

"I had a hit early today but it wasn't enough. I needed the morphine to stop withdrawals. I was desperate for a hit and all I knew was I had to have one," Jenkins said according to the interview.

Constable Larry Seakins, of Caulfield police, said he found a knife in Jenkins' coat pocket and one in his trousers.

Sophie Christou, chemist shop assistant, of Saxonwood Drive, Doncaster East, said Jenkins went into the chemist shop in Prahran on March 3 and said he wanted drugs.

Christou said Jenkins told her: "Sorry, I have never done this before." She said he went through the drugs and cried "God, haven't you got any morphine?"

In the record of interview Jenkins said he sought treatment for his drug problem a month before, but all the drug clinics were full.

AUSTRALIA

BRIEFS

POLICE IRATE AT ALLEGATIONS--Police will meet in Wollongong next week to discuss allegations that members of the force are involved in drug trafficking. The secretary of the NSW Police Association, Mr R. Page, says police in the city are "extremely unhappy about the innuendoes and unproven accusations. "This kind of attack on their character could lead to drastic action," Mr Page said yesterday. Mr Gordon Gately, who described himself as a former drug addict, alleged on the ATN-7 program Willesee at Seven earlier this week that three senior detectives were involved in the Wollongong heroin trade. [Text] [Sydney THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD in English 9 Jul 77 p 3]

CSO: 5300

BURMA

BRIEFS

HEROIN SEIZED IN RANGOON TOWNSHIP--Rangoon, 11 Jul--Acting on information, a police party from Hlaing Police Station headed by police subinspector U Myo Nyunt together with people's councillors of Ward II, Hlaing Township, searched the house of Aung Naing alias Pway Shaung at no 100 Marlakarchan, Madha Road (upper floor of Shwe Thein Hosiery) last night and seized a packet of heroin and two empty plastic packets with traces of heroin from Aung Myint alias Khin Swe who was found in the house. The search party also seized a hypodermic syringe in the bedroom of Aung Naing. Hlaing Police are taking action against Aung Naing alias Pway Shaung and Aung Myint alias Khin Swe (22) of no 7, Latha Street, under Section 6 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 Jul 77 p 1 BK]

HEROIN IN MERGUI TOWNSHIP--Mergui, 6 Jul--Township People's Council Secretary U Soe Min, Police Subinspector U Kyee Myint and party searched the house of Maung San Win of Nauklei Quarter here last night and seized 14 packets of heroin no 3. Action is being taken against Maung San Win and accomplice Maung Khaing under the narcotic drugs law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 13 Jul 77 pp 1, 4 BK]

ARREST OF TWO FOR HEROIN--Rangoon 13 Jul--Acting on information, Police Station Officer U Myint, Subinspector U Sein Tin and a party from the Pabedan Police Station at 2300 yesterday raided room no 13 of Paw U Guest House--top floor of no 365, Boygoke Street--and arrested two men who were injecting heroin. Police seized two packets of heroin each worth 100 kyats and a hypodermic syringe from the two men--Than Win, 22, of no 1435, Phaya Road, Nawin no 2 Ward of Prome and Hla Thu, 28, of no 75, Yongyi Street in Kemmendine. The Pabedan Police station has taken action under sections 6 (B) and 14 (D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 14 Jul 77 p 7 BK]

HEROIN FROM KYAUKME WOMAN--Kyaukme, 6 Jul--Acting on information, Kyaukme's Ward no 2 People's Council Secretary U Aung Sein, Police Private Ko Thein Maung and member of Ward Judges Committee U Tun Hla yesterday searched the residence of Daw Zaw Dar and found a heroin packet weighing a quarter of a tical [1 tical = 0.036 pounds] on the woman. The city police station has arrested Daw Zaw Dar and has charged her under Section 6 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon MYANMA ALIN in Burmese 14 Jul 77 p 5 BK]

HEROIN SOLUTION IN RANGOON--Three drug addicts who had taken shots at no 12 Shangon Street, Sanchaung, were caught by the police together with a bottle of heroin solution and hypodermic syringe and needles Wednesday night. The three addicts, identified as Maung Kyaw Win (22) of no 12, Shangon Street, Sanchaung, Aung Kyaw (20) of no 54, Shangon Street, Sanchaung, and Tin Win (23) of no 33, Ma Po Street, Sanchaung, were said to have taken heroin shots at Maung Kyaw Win's house and were coming down the stairs when the police searched the three and found the bottle of heroin and hypodermic syringe and needles. The three youths have been booked by the police under sections 6 (B) and 14 (D) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 15 Jul 77 p 1 BK]

SEIZURE OF HEROIN IN TAUNGAGGYI--Taunggyi, 10 Jul--Acting on information, a police party from Taunggyi Myoma Police Station made a surprise check at the night bazaar yesterday and seized a large quantity of heroin from shopkeepers at the Bazaar. Ten small packets of heroin and a hypodermic syringe were seized from Ma Kyi Aung of Seinpan Quarter: a packet of heroin weighting about 5 ticals and values at K5,000 from Ma Yin Yin Mein of Phayaphyu Quarter; two packets of heroin weighting about 5 ticals and valued at K5,000 from Lonephwa of Chanmyathasi Quarter and a hypodermic syringe from Maung Ko of Myoma Quarter. Police are taking action under sections 6 (B) and 10 (B) of the Narcotic Drugs Law. [Text] [Rangoon WORKING PEOPLE'S DAILY in English 16 Jul 77 p 1 BK]

HEROIN BELONGING TO INSURGENTS--Columns from the Eastern Military Command participating in "Operation Roaring Sky Phase III" and undertaking search-and-destroy missions against opium refineries of armed SUA [Shan United Army] and Karreni insurgents in the Mong Mau Area near the Thai-Burmese border in Southern Shan State since the last week of July [as heard] have discovered more chemical and heroin belonging to the SUA insurgents. On the evening of 10 July, 10 5-gallon tins of chemicals used in refining heroin belonging to the SUA insurgents were found by a column from the 94th Infantry Regiment in a gully southwest of (?Loi-Maung) in Man Ton area. On the afternoon of 13 July, 10 packets of brown heroin each weighing 45 ticals, a packet of heroin weighing 25 ticals and two packets of raw opium were found near the same place by a column from the 54th Infantry Regiment. Troops taking part in "Operation Roaring Sky Phase III" are continuing their search for drugs, opium refining equipment and chemicals hidden by the insurgents. [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 20 Jul 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

HONG KONG

BIG DRUG SHIPMENTS EXPECTED

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 15 Jul 77 p 1

[Text]

Police are on full alert for massive consignments of drugs destined for Hongkong.

This follows a tip-off that huge transactions have recently been completed in Bangkok.

The transactions, negotiated between agents for poppy-farmers in the Golden Triangle and drug distributors in Bangkok, were said to amount to millions of dollars.

The deal came as no surprise to local drug-fighters as it confirmed earlier information that poppy-farmers had a "bumper harvest" in March.

Both Preventive Service and police sources say they are keeping a sharp watch on all entry points.

The tip-off is believed to have come from high-ranking drug-fighters in Thailand.

A \$6.4 million drug seizure on Wednesday tended to confirm that consignments are on the way.

"This could be the first of a chain of drug consignments destined for Hongkong," a Preventive Service source said.

There are two crops a year in the poppy fields of the Golden Triangle producing a total output of between 700 and 1,000 tons of drugs for export.

The early crop is planted in September and harvest is between January and March.

The main crop, planted in October, is ready for harvest between February and March.

After processing, transport and distribution, the drugs are normally exported between July and August.

HONG KONG

BASKETS OF DRUGS FOUND AT AIRPORT

Hong Kong SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST in English 18 Jul 77 p.1

[Text]

Drugs worth \$13.5 million were seized at the airport last night. It is believed to be the biggest seizure ever at Kai Tak.

No arrest has been made.

The drugs - 30 morphine blocks weighing about 100 lbs and 18 packets of prepared opium weighing 54 lbs - were found concealed in eight baskets of longnan (dragons' eyes) fruit which arrived from Bangkok yesterday afternoon.

The Preventive Service's airport division Superintendent, Mr C. C. W. Kerswill, said a total of 800 kilos of fresh fruit arrived from Bangkok at 4.30 pm in six consignments.

Five were claimed.

"We waited until 9.30 pm and when the consignee had failed to claim the sixth shipment, we became suspicious and opened the baskets," Mr Kerswill said.

He said the morphine blocks were concealed in five of the baskets and the opium in another three.

A check was made but the consignee's name and address were found to be fictitious.

CSO: 5300

INDIA

BRIEFS

MORPHIA SEIZED--Madras, 6 Jul--Nirmala (33) was today arrested by the Inspector of Police, Kodambakkam, who recovered from her nearly 600 ampoules of morphia. According to the Deputy Commissioner of Police (Law and Order, South), Mr W. I. Devaram, she was caught while transporting the drug from Vijayawada to a private clinic in Kodambakkam. Investigation was being continued in respect of the role of the clinic in supplying this drug to addicts.
[Text] [Madras THE HINDU in English 7 Jul 77 p 13]

CSO: 5300

OFFICIAL SEEKS PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR ANTIDRUG PROJECT

Kuala Lumpur NEW SUNDAY TIMES in English 24 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Sat--The National Association for the Prevention of Drug Abuse, PEMADAM, has called on the public to come forward to assist in its efforts to eradicate drug abuse problems in the country.

Its president, Encik Rais Yatim, who is also the deputy law minister, said that one way of helping was to give their full support to its lottery-fund raising project, launched by the prime minister, Datuk Hussein bin Onn, on July 9.

Encik Rais said that the government had allocated \$5 million under the Third Malaysia Plan to control the drug problem, and it was now up to the public to give its wholehearted support to check this abuse.

He was speaking at the handing over of about 130,000 tickets to three chambers of commerce and six companies. He said the International Chambers of Commerce had also pledged to accept 50,000 tickets.

Encik Rais said that about 150,000 people were on drugs.

"Without the cooperation of the public we'll lose this war," he said.

PEMADAM hopes to raise \$1.5 million from the lottery, which will be drawn by the deputy prime minister, Dato Seri Dr. Mahathir bin Mohamed on October 15.

Encik Rais said about \$1 million from the proceeds would go to financing three rehabilitation centres, which would be set up in Penang, Selangor and Johore--BERNAMA.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

OFFICIAL CALLS FOR ELIMINATION OF DRUG ABUSE

Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 25 Jul 77 BK

[Text] The deputy minister of home affairs, Datuk Shariff Ahmad, said that during the first half of this year 50 Malaysians were arrested in connection with international drug trafficking. Of this number, 10 were arrested in foreign countries. There were only seven cases last year.

Datuk Shariff Ahmad was speaking at the installation dinner of the Rotary Club at (Camp ?Halim) last night.

He called on all volunteer organizations to join the war against drug abuse. He said the Rotary Club could play an important role in after-care treatment programs.

About 4 million ringgit had been set aside for the rehabilitation of drug dependents under the Third Malaysia Plan.

He said this money would be utilized for more worthwhile projects if the people were aware of the danger of drug abuse and cooperated with the government more fully in eliminating that social matter.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

HALFWAY HOUSES SET UP TO CURE DRUG ADDICTS URGED

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 22 Jul 77 p 13 BK

[Text] Penang, Thurs.--Deputy Law Minister Encik Rais Yatim appealed to the state governments today to set up "halfway houses" to rehabilitate drug addicts.

Encik Rais was speaking to reporters after he was briefed on the drug abuse research project carried out by the USM [University Sains Malaysia] students recently, at the University Sains' Policy Research Centre this afternoon.

He said close cooperation between the state and the federal government and PEMADAM [National Association Against Drug Abuse] was needed to carry out these projects.

Although the exact number of addicts in Penang had not yet been ascertained, according to the research there were at least 5,018 addicts.

But, he said, this did not mean that the drug abuse problem was only up to this extent. It was believed that the addiction problem could be 10 times as much.

The research also found that 781 or more than 10 percent of the 5,808 upper secondary school students interviewed in the state took drugs.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

POLICE MAKE HEROIN HAUL IN PENANG

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 19 Jul 77 p 5 BK

[Article by Khamis Ahmad]

[Text] Penang, Mon.--Central Narcotics Bureau [CNB] officers have seized 20 pounds of heroin, the biggest amount so far this year. The heroin could have been reduced 2 million shots. [sentence as published]

The drug was found in a hotel room here.

Three men have been detained on suspicion of being drug traffickers.

The officers believe they have crippled a syndicate with international connections operating from the north which supplies drugs to the southern states and Singapore.

The seizure of the drug last Thursday was the result of a tip-off from the public.

The CNB (North Region), Chief Supt William Lim, told a press conference: "We raided a hotel room and found the drugs hidden in some bags."

Mr Lim said the suspects belonged to an independent syndicate but he believed it did not cater for the drug markets here.

In Kuala Lumpur, the director of CNB, Dato's Jarjis bin Mohamed Ali, praised the public for feeding information to the antinarcotics officers on drug movements, particularly in the northern area.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

POLICE MAKE HEROIN RAIDS, ARREST SEVEN MEN

Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 21 Jul 77 p 28 BK

[Text] Kuala Lumpur, Wed--City police seized 3 and 3/4 pounds of heroin, which can provide 400,000 shots, in two separate raids here and in Klang.

They also detained four men including two suspected drug pushers.

City police chief deputy commissioner Datuk Mansor bin Mohamad Noor said today the seizure was another major success by the city flying squad.

He said that at about 1730 hours, a police party laid an ambush in Jalan Kapar in Klang.

Later, they spotted two men in a car travelling near the 9th mile Jalan Kapar and forced it to stop after a short chase.

The police searched the car and found 3 pounds of heroin in two plastic bags worth about \$35,000.

In Kuala Lumpur, acting on information, a police party led by Inspector Liew Nam Yen raided a house at Kampung Mydin, off the 4 and 3/4 Jalan Klang.

They picked up two suspected drug pushers and seized three packets of heroin weighing about 3/4 pounds and 64 empty straws.

Last Saturday, the flying squad recovered 15 packets of heroin and arrested three men including two suspected drug traffickers in Klang area.

They also seized \$2,500 from the house of one of the suspects in Port Klang.

CSO: 5300

MALAYSIA

BRIEFS

DETENTION FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Police have detained four persons in several raids in Petaling Jaya and recovered a quantity of heroin sufficient for 200 doses. Deputy OCPD [office in charge of police department] crime, deputy superintendent (Godwin Anthony) said the police raided the construction site at Jalan (Jambu Dara) at Section A. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 Jul 77 BK]

FIGURES ON DRUG CRIMES--The parliament was told today that the police and the Central Narcotics Bureau had destroyed four heroin processing laboratories in the country so far. The first laboratory was destroyed by the Bureau at Bukit Mertajam in 1973. Two others were found in the same area last year. The fourth laboratory was found by the police in the Sungai Petani area last year. The deputy minister of communications, Encik Ali Sharif, was speaking on behalf of the minister of law. Encik Alu said 89 drug smugglers were arrested since 1975. All of them were sentenced to death and eight others to life imprisonment. Cases against the rest were pending. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 19 Jul 77 BK]

SENTENCE FOR HEROIN POSSESSION--Kuala Lumpur, Fri--Cobbler Yuen Hon Mun, 32, of Jalan Alor was today sentenced to 4-1/2 years jail and seven strokes of the rotan when he pleaded guilty to possessing 27 grams of heroin. The court was told that Inspector Chandran Segaram of the Brickfields Police Station, acting on information received, went to a coffeeshop in Jalan Marsh, Brickfields, on 4 December last year. He stopped Yuen and on searching him found five small packets later confirmed to be heroin. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 16 Jul 77 p 8 BK]

HEROIN RAID IN PENANG--Officers of the Central Narcotics Bureau have seized 20 pounds of heroin during a raid on a hotel in Penang. They also detained three suspects for questioning. The heroin seizure was described as the biggest for the bureau this year. [Text] [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 19 Jul 77 BK]

CSO: 5300

SINGAPORE

RAIDS NET RAW OPIUM 8-9 JULY

Singapore SUNDAY TIMES in English 10 Jul 77 p 10 BK

[Text] Customs officers arrested three men and seized 17 slabs of raw opium worth \$35,000 in a 2-day operation that ended yesterday.

The customs men also seized a mini Minor car.

The operation in which 30 customs officers were involved began at 7 am on Friday.

According to Mr E. C. P. Paglar, senior supt Investigation Division of the Customs Department, these 30 officers were divided into four groups.

They started from Pasir Panjang Area in different cars and on motorcycles and scooters.

The officers spotted a suspect car along Pasir Panjang Road and trailed it. When the car stopped near the Upper Serangoon Road Market at 10:30 pm, customs officers closed in and searched the vehicle. From it they seized a slab of raw opium, weighing 2 kilograms.

The 51-year-old driver of the car and his 43-year old passenger were arrested. They were brought back to Customs House in Maxwell Road for interrogation.

At midnight, a customs party raided a flat in Telok Blangah Housing Estate and seized another two slabs of raw opium. Mr Paglar said they were wrapped in a polythene bag and hidden under a bed.

At 8 am yesterday, Mr Paglar gave a second briefing to his men as they set out to apprehend more members of the syndicate.

They went to a block of flats in Henderson Road and seized another four slabs of raw opium hidden in a rubbish chute.

At 9 am, a raiding party went to a house in Temple Street and arrested a 43-year-old man who put up a fierce struggle. From the house they seized 10 slabs of raw opium hidden in two biscuit tins.

Mr Paglar said they had been trailing the men for the past 3 months. The men are believed to be members of a syndicate which was the main distributor of raw opium to opium dens throughout the island.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

NARCOTICS CHIEF ON VISIT TO TURKEY, OPIUM CONTROL MEASURES

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 21 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Secretary-general of the Antinarcotics Board Mr Pramuk Sawatoinmongkhon yesterday said that the Turkish Government has successfully controlled opium growing in the country and opium growers there give full cooperation to their government.

Pramuk returned from Turkey on Tuesday morning after he and his three-man party visited that country as guests of the Turkish Government to observe opium growing in the country between 11-17 July.

He said in an interview with the BANGKOK POST yesterday that opium growing in Turkey is legal and is under strict government control.

There are only seven provinces in central Anatolia where farmers are allowed to grow opium, according to Pramuk.

"One family is allowed to grow opium on a plot of land, limited to 500 square metres per family. But opium is not the 'cash' crop for Turkish farmers as they grow opium together with other crops such as rice," Pramuk explained.

Opium growing in Turkey is under the control of the Food, Agriculture and Animal Husbandry Ministry, specifically in the Soil Products Office, and this section controlled opium growing in the seven provinces, Pramuk said.

Besides, in each district of the seven provinces, there will be a director and a controller of opium growing.

After the opium 'pods' appeared, officials will come to "count" the number of pods in each square metre of land in order to accurately estimate the opium crop and this estimate is used as a control to determine the correctness of the amount of opium pods the farmers must turn in to the government warehouse.

Pramuk explained further that the Turkish Government did not have much difficulty in controlling opium growing in the country because the opium is grown in the plains which are accessible by roads, unlike Thailand, where opium is grown in the remote and mountainous regions which are difficult to reach.

"However, with the government's crop replacement projects, we hope that opium growing by hilltribes will be gradually disappearing because cash crops other than opium are being introduced to hilltribesmen," Pramuk concluded.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE OFFICIAL ON NARCOTICS SUPPRESSION, INVESTIGATION

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0000 GMT 23 Jul 77 BK

[Text] Lt Gen Chumphon Lohachala, deputy director general for special affairs of the Police Department, told newsmen at the Interior Ministry today that a committee has been named by the police director general to interrogate and investigate Lao Fan, arrested with a large quantity of narcotics. The results of the committee's investigation will be forwarded to the police chief for study, since this is a major narcotics arrest involving an international network and offering potential harm to the people. Police are investigating the origin of the network.

Asked where the biggest source of narcotics is, the deputy director general for special affairs said most narcotics come from the north of Thailand, from the border area between Thailand and Burma. He said that Burma wanted to cooperate with Thailand in wiping out narcotics production but that it is difficult to reach those sources because of the dense forests. The authorities are now trying to locate narcotic factories and to destroy them along with stepping up efforts to arrest both small and major traffickers.

The deputy police chief said Thailand and other Asian countries are now exchanging intelligence about narcotics suppression. This has yielded good results, because authorities can now intercept narcotics during transit. Most shipments entering Thailand came through the north, or from Burma by way of the Andaman Sea. However, the routes keep changing, because traffickers use new routes once the authorities find out about the old ones. Production sources are located in the north, near the Burmese border. We have trouble tracking them down, because narcotics producers usually flee into Burma to escape the narcotics agents. We cannot follow them into Burmese territory. Anyway, we are trying to control the chemicals and equipment used for the production of heroin, morphine, etc. Thailand, he said, is being assisted by the United States in its efforts to suppress narcotics, including the training of Thai officials and the exchange of intelligence.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

REVISION OF NARCOTICS LAWS PLANNED

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Excerpt] The Ministry of Public Health is planning to revise existing narcotics laws to empower authorities to summon persons suspected of being drug addicts for examination and to impose compulsory rehabilitation for addicts, Under Secretary of State for Public Health Dr Prakop Tuchinda said yesterday.

He said the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Centre was undertaking research in Chiang Mai, Korat and Bangkok Metropolis to determine the population of drug addicts in the country.

At present, there are no current statistics of the drug addict population in the country. The latest research which was conducted by SEATO in 1974 concluded that there were about 500,000 addicts throughout the country, mostly in the age group between 15-22.

Dr Prakop said that the trend of heroin addiction had declined since authorities have stepped up their efforts to wipe out the drug menace. But he noted that cases of addiction to other drugs like Seconal and tranquilisers have risen.

A hospital plan for the rehabilitation of drug addicts will be set up in the northern region this fiscal year.

CSO: 5300

OFFICIAL DISCUSSES CRACKDOWN ON NARCOTICS VIOLATORS

Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 23 Jul 77 BK

[Text] Pramuk Sawatdimongkhon, secretary general of the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Board, told newsmen that there has been a decreasing number of narcotics violations because suppression officials have actively carried out their duties and drastic punishment has been meted out to violators.

Pramuk said that the courts have been imposing relatively heavy punishment for narcotics crimes. In addition, other forms of punishment have also been employed, such as charges of being a danger to society and the use of Article 21.

Asked by newsmen whether the death penalty will be proposed as punishment for people who possess heroin as is the case in certain foreign countries, Pramuk pointed out that narcotics violators must be considered case by case to judge if they warrant being executed, since it would be too severe to execute every person who possesses narcotics. For example, addicts must have narcotics in their possession; we don't consider addicts criminals, but patients. It would be too severe to consider them convicts to be executed.

He said that Article 21 is not used against all narcotics producers and traffickers. Their actions--such as if they are financiers who have committed several narcotics crimes--must be taken into consideration before using Article 21 to punish them, even though they may have only a small amount of narcotics at the time of arrest.

Asked about the arrest of Lao Fan and company, Pramuk said that they had in their possession nearly 150 kilograms of heroin, opium and morphine to sell. This arrest is the biggest one so far this year. He said that he cannot say at this time whether Article 21 will be used against Lao Fan and company since officials are in the process of investigating and collecting evidence.

Asked about efforts to improve Thailand's reputation as one of the world's largest narcotics producers, Pramuk pointed out that the government has

recently been using drastic measures to suppress narcotics and that this has resulted in fewer people committing narcotic crimes. This has caused the price of opium in Thailand to decrease, which in turn has discouraged hilltribesmen from growing it; they have turned to cultivating other crops which yield better prices. It is believed that if the government supports hilltribesmen in their cultivation efforts and helps market their agricultural products, these people will completely stop growing opium. Nevertheless, Thailand lies on an important opium and heroin trafficking route run by neighboring countries. The board will have to cooperate with the customs and police departments in drastically suppressing this matter.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE ARREST SEVERAL ON LESTER WOLFF'S LIST OF MAJOR DRUG DEALERS

Lao Fan Arrested

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 15 Jul 77 p 1 BK

[Text] Narcotics Suppression Police yesterday arrested a Chinese-Haw who was described by U.S. Congressman Lester Wolff as one of 12 people responsible for international narcotics traffic from Thailand to Europe and the United States.

The Chinese-Haw, Lao Fan or Fan Tsu Hsiang, 39, was arrested with 3.7 kilogrammes of No 4 first grade heroin in his possession. He was described by narcotics agents as the righthand man of Chang Kai Cheng, described by Lester Wolff as a major narcotics boss.

Lao Fan was arrested at the top floor parking lot of Central Department Store, Chitlom Branch, while he was allegedly waiting to hand over the heroin to customers.

With good cooperation from the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration and other international narcotics agents, Lao Fan and his accomplice, a Thai Chinese Pricha (Sinsa) Sae Chin were kept under close surveillance for many days before yesterday's arrest.

Upon the arrest at about 1400 hours yesterday, police found the heroin neatly packed in 10 plastic bags, each containing 370 grammes of heroin, in Lao Fan's rented car.

Police later proceeded to house No 76, Soi Prachanimit on Pradiphat Road in Saphan Khwai area where Lao Fan normally stayed while in Bangkok and arrested Pricha.

Lao Fan reportedly told police that he was a "businessman" in Thachilek in Burma and frequently sneaked into Thailand to do business with his customers.

He claimed that he used to live in Yunnan in China and escaped from there after the war and lived in Burma ever since. However, he reportedly served 2 years' jail term in Burma back in 1967 on a charge of spying.

His accomplice, Pricha, had served 3 years' jail term in Bangkok on narcotics offences and was only recently released.

Deputy commander of the Central Investigation Bureau, Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, who is also a member of the anti-narcotics board, yesterday praised good cooperation between Thai and international narcotics agents on exchanging information which led to Lao Fan's arrest yesterday.



"Alleged international narcotics trafficker Lao Fan (arrowed) with Police Chief Gen Monchai Phankhongchun yesterday."

Lao Fan Denies Trafficking

Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 15 Jul 77 pp 1, 12 BK

[Excerpts] A Taiwanese businessman was arrested yesterday with 3.7 kilos of heroin and police said the suspect was one of the 12 major drug traffickers recently named by American Congressman Lester Wolff.

Secretary general of the police department's anti-narcotics centre, Police Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, told reporters that police had been tailing the businessman, a Haw by birth, for several years before he was finally cornered with drugs on him.

Lao Fan was charged with colluding with "others still at large" to traffic narcotics.

Police Maj Gen Phao said authorities will consider whether to impose summary punishment against the suspect through Article 21 of the constitution.

"But we have good evidence to prove that this man is one of the 12 named by Congressman Wolff on the House floor in Washington recently," the police officer said.

Wolff, also chairman of the Narcotics Committee of the U.S. House of Representatives, last month named 12 Chinese as drug traffickers in Thailand and said one of them is "one of the principal traffickers in the world today."

Lao Fan, who appeared calm during interrogation yesterday, claimed that he was not a traffickers. "I was simply hired to carry the drugs to somebody else," he said.



"Lao Fan, 39, a Taiwanese businessman arrested with 3.7 kilos of heroin yesterday is one of the 12 major drug traffickers which U.S. Congressman Lester Wolff named recently in Washington, D.C. Sipping a cool glass of tea, Lao Fan remained calm throughout the interrogation yesterday."

142 Kilos of Heroin, Morphine Seized

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 16 Jul 77 p 1 BK

[Text] In one of the biggest drug hauls in recent years, Thai narcotics suppression police and U.S. drug enforcement agents yesterday seized over 140 kilogrammes of heroin and morphine from a rented house in a suburban housing estate in Bangkok.

The seizure came 1 day after Thai and U.S. drug enforcement agents snapped a vital narcotics connection with the arrest of Lao Fan or Fan Tsu Hsiang--described as one of the top narcotics traffickers in Thailand--with 3.7 kilogrammes of No 4 heroin in the parking lot of Central Department Store, Chitlom Road.

Suspecting that Lao Fan, who was a resident of Thakhilek in Burma and who used to make frequent visits to Bangkok, must have more heroin in his possession. Narcotics Suppression Police force yesterday raided a house on Soi Suksan 2 in the Anan Suksan housing estate off the Wiphawadi Rangsit Highway for a search.

The house was reported to have been rented by Lao Fan.

Probing into a storeroom near the kitchen on the ground floor of the two-storey house, police discovered 61 packages of No 4 heroin weighing 22.4 kilogrammes, 100 packages of No 3 heroin weighing 99.5 kilogrammes, 13 blocks of morphine base bearing the famous 999 Brand weighing 22.3 kilogrammes and 10 packages of cooked opium bearing Double Rabbits brand weighing 13 kilogrammes.

Deputy commander of the Central Investigation Bureau, Pol Maj Gen Phao Sarasin, described the drug haul as the biggest ever in Thailand over the past 3 years. It is worth several million baht on the local market, and the price would increase a hundredfold on the international market.

Police arrested the house watchman, a Lisu hilltribesman identified as Sai Liso, who told police that Lao Fan was paying him 500 baht a month to watch over the house when he was away.

Sai said that he is a native of Lampang Province and had come to Bangkok only 1 month ago.

Deputy police chiefs, Lt Gen Chumphon Lohachala and Gen Narong Mahanon, immediately rushed to the house to inspect the heroin haul.

Both expressed satisfaction at the seizure as did U.S. Ambassador Charles Whitehouse, who was informed of it in the afternoon when he made a brief visit to the Narcotics Suppression Centre.

Lao Fan and his accomplice, Pricha 'Sinsa' Sae Chin, were arrested earlier on Thursday. Lao Fan and his boss, Chang Kai Cheng, were described by U.S. Consul Lester Wolff as being two of twelve people responsible for international narcotics traffic from Thailand to Europe and the United States.

Lao Fan and Pricha both have records in the narcotics police files.

Two houses were searched on Thursday after Lao Fan and Pricha were arrested, but no drug was found. The police decided to search the third house, believing that the location of the house might make it a suitable place for storing drugs.

Lao Fan served a 2-year jail term in Burma in 1967 as well as Pricha, who served a 3-year jail term in Bangkok on narcotics offences.



An unhappy and bewildered Sai Liso stands by the enormous drug haul at the Narcotics Suppression Centre yesterday.

Another Member Arrested

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 17 Jul 77 pp 1, 3 BK

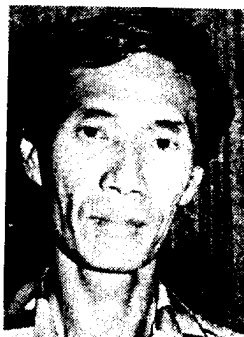
[Excerpt] Crime Suppression Division police yesterday arrested another member of the Chinese-Haw drugs ring at his house in Makkasan area.

Chan "Siewusan" Siphadungkun, 44, a native of Phrae Province, admitted yesterday, police said, that he drove the car for Lao Fan on Thursday to deliver the heroin at the top-floor parking lot of the Central Department Store on Chitlom Road.

Chan said that he knew Lao Fan for a long time and used to work together with him before, the source added.

Police said that Lao Fan was earlier arrested at a Wisutkasat area hotel on 2 June this year by Chana Songkram police together with a Mrs Suni "Ngo" Songcharoen. Others arrested were Piboon or Nankham Tantichotiwat and Somsak Udomchaisap.

Four kilos of No 4 heroin were found in their possession, but Lao Fan was later released because of "insufficient" evidence against him.



Chan

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

POLICE SEIZE HEROIN, ARREST COUPLE AT BANGKOK AIRPORT

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 12 Jul 77 p 1 BK

[Text] Crime Suppression Division [CSD] police and customs officials arrested a man and a woman at Don Muang Airport while they allegedly were trying to smuggle 7 kilogrammes of No 3 heroin out to Amsterdam late last night, CSD police said this morning.

The arrest was made as the result of several days' investigation of a suspected leading narcotics trafficking ring engaged in smuggling heroin to European countries.

The two arrested persons were identified as Phairot Borisut, 46, a former immigration officer at Sadao District in Songkhla Province who was dismissed 2 years ago, and Mrs Somphit Saradi, 27, who told police that she was a dressmaking student in Bangkok.

United States narcotics agents and Thai plainclothes policemen had shadowed Phairot and Mrs Somphit for several days and followed them from Si Rungruang Hotel near the national stadium to Don Muang Airport last night.

CSD police and customs officials searched the three suitcases which were being carried by Phairot and Mrs Somphit in the departure lounge and uncovered the heroin neatly hidden inside.

Phairot was reported to have told police that he and Mrs Somphit had been hired for 5,000 baht each, by a 45-year-old Chinese known to him only as "Mr Lim," and given three round trip tickets to carry the three suitcases.

He said that Mr Lim told him there would be someone to take the three suitcases from them at Amsterdam airport.

"We accepted this offer because we wanted to take a free trip to Amsterdam," police quoted Phairot as saying.



A Customs official checks a suitcase which allegedly contained heroin while the two suspects, Phairot and Mrs Somphit look on.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

BUSINESSMAN GETS 35 YEARS FOR DRUG POSSESSION

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 7 Jul 77 p 5 BK

[Text] Chiang Mai--In one of the most celebrated drug cases in this northern province, the provincial court yesterday sentenced a well-known merchant, Arun Nanawichit, to 35 years' imprisonment and imposes heavy jail terms on two accomplices.

Arun and his nephew Saman Nanawichit were both given 35 years' imprisonment while a third accomplice, Mrs Somphon Anuwongcharoen, was given 17 years and 6 months' imprisonment.

Judge Sutthi Tangsiwong found the suspects guilty of possessing and attempting to smuggle 300 kg of opium and morphine derivatives in March last year.

It was not immediately known whether the three would appeal their sentence.

The court was told that on 23 March last year narcotics agents based in the north, led by Pol Col Kuson Naksichum, raided a house in the provincial town and seized a large quantity of drugs including 164 kg of opium, 20 kg of morphine base and 105 kg of morphine sticks. The total value of the haul was estimated at 40 million baht.

Arrested at the scene was owner of the house Mrs Somphon and Arun, a prominent businessman and a Moslem community leader in Chiang Mai.

Arun's nephew, Saman, was suspected of being involved in the trade. He was not at the scene at the time of the raid but was taken into custody later.

Arun denied any knowledge about the drugs and fought the case in court. He was later given bail because of a heart ailment.

Police since then had collected evidence in the case and the prosecutor duly submitted the case to court.

The final verdict was handed down yesterday.

Arun, apparently stunned by the verdict of 35 years' jail term, refused to make any comments to newsmen.

THAILAND

POLICE SEIZE 15 TONS OF HASHISH, ARREST THREE MEN

Bangkok BANGKOK WORLD in English 22 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Text] Rayong--Provincial Police Zone 2 officers yesterday arrested three men and confiscated about 15,200 kilogrammes of hashish worth about 200 million baht in the overseas market when they raided a warehouse in a forest near Village No 3 of Tambon Maptaphut in Muang District.

The suspects, who were men assigned to guard the warehouse which belongs to a well-known merchant, were identified as Wichian Thongphun, Bunsong Bunmi and Somchok Thaiphun.

Police said the raid was made following intelligence reports that a large quantity of hashish in blocks had been secretly sent from Udon Thani Province to this provincial town for export to foreign markets.

When police raided the warehouse 760 wooden boxes, each containing 20 kilogrammes of hashish, were found hidden in the warehouse.

The three suspects are being detained at the Provincial Police Zone 2 headquarters for interrogation to find out the owner of the hashish.

A late report this morning said officers from the Police Narcotics Suppression Center have been sent to Rayong to inspect the hashish seized and assist in the investigation.

CSO: 5300

THAILAND

AUTHORITIES ARREST, JAIL FOREIGNERS ON HEROIN CHARGES

Bangkok BANGKOK POST in English 27 Jul 77 p 3 BK

[Text] The Criminal Court yesterday sentenced two Australians and a Thai girl to 10 years and 1 month imprisonment each after they were found guilty of possessing 286 grammes of No 4 heroin and 4/0 [sic] grammes of marihuana for sale.

The Australians, Robert Douglas Anderson (25), Stephen Frederick Sullivan (20) and Miss Kanlaya Komloi (25) were arrested earlier on November 22 last year from a house in Soi Naphasap, off Sukhumwit Road with the drugs.

Anderson told the court that he habitually smoked marihuana but possessed the small amount of heroin only because he wanted to try it.

Sullivan and Miss Kanlaya denied all charges.

But the court found them guilty of the charges and sentenced them to 10 years each for possessing heroin and an additional month on finding them guilty to the charge of possessing marihuana for sale.

Frenchman Held

A 23-year-old Frenchman, B. J. Christain, was arrested at the Don Muang Airport at 9:30 p.m. last night on charges of possessing 85 grammes of white heroin.

Christain, the holder of a student passport, was arrested before boarding an Iraqi airlines flight.

The heroin was hidden inside the shoe heels of the Frenchman. He was arrested by customs officials Somkha-ne Hongladarom, Somchai Phunket and Anan Pananan.

CSO: 5300

'PRACE' REPORTS ON DRUG TRAFFIC VIA CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Prague PRACE in Czech 21 Jul 77 p 5 AU

[Article by Zdenek Bures: "The Hashish Smugglers Did Not Pass: Stop! Border Zone"]

[Summary] "Even a long time before this incident [presumably the following incident] the watchword 'Let's go for the hashish!' had become popular among the Cheb customs officials. It was heard whenever there were people among the passengers of the international express train who either by appearance or country of origin, or the state of their departure or destination could be considered for the transshipment of hashish."

It is well known that our country is a suitable transit state for shipments to the FRG and on the way from the hashish grower in Pakistan to the final consumer in West Germany the price per kilogram would rise from M20 to as much as M3,000-4,000, a very tempting deal, therefore.

"All this was well known to the customs officers at the Cheb Railroad Station who day after day in the early morning hours go onto the platform for the customs processing of the express train that goes on to Nuernberg and Zurich."

How often have our customs and passport control organs processed the passengers of this train! "Then came the moment when the penetrating odor of perfume was the first signal for increased attention. And after the customs officer established, in addition, that the travelers in the compartment were citizens of a Middle East country, that is an area where people are addicted to hashish, the suspicion heightened. A search of the luggage proved negative at first, but then the officer's hand groped its way toward an unevenness at the bottom and several slabs of a dark brown compressed matter, wrapped in cellophane, came to light. Naturally the excuse that these were spices to flavor whiskey proved unfounded. A superficial comparison with samples and particularly the laboratory checks revealed that it was genuine hashish.

"Soon afterward the hashish 'intoxication' was repeated at Cheb Railroad Station. One week later the customs officers registered the same, by now,

well-known smell in the same express train. But this time a detailed search of the luggage yielded no results. There were, however, specially tailored vests that yielded their secrets.

"After Cheb came Ruzyne. A traveler from Baghdad with two suitcases with hollow sides turned up for processing by customs there. The trained eye of the customs officer noted the difference between the internal and external dimensions of the suitcase, indicated that the suitcase had double bottoms. When the traveler began to assure the officer that he was not carrying anything, but offered him first cigarettes essentially, and subsequently a bottle of whiskey and a filigree brooch it all became clear. The outcome of a detailed inspection was unambiguous: Three flat plastic packages with a brownish powder were found in the smaller suitcase whereas the bottom of the bigger suitcase contained six such packages containing hashish.

"Naturally the carrier did not get to the FRG where he was to meet his contact. Paragraphs 187 and 188 of our penal code stipulate prison terms from 1 to 8 years for drug offenses. The hashish finds of Czechoslovak customs officers have confirmed the statement of Dr Zdenek Krejci of the Olomouce Palacky University to the effect that the struggle against drugs is a topical theme not only in the backward countries but also in those with a high living standard and that even though the socialist countries are not very attractive for drug traffickers they can become a transit road for illegal drug deals."

CSO: 5300

BOLIVIA

BRIEFS

NARCOTICS RAIDS--In five separate raids on cocaine plants in the course of 1 week, agents of the Santa Cruz narcotics office seized 4,980 grams of cocaine and arrested 20 persons, among them Mary Margarita Arteaga, Omar Milton Mendez Arteaga, Doris Vaca Vargas, and Lorgio Vargas Diesche. [La Paz EL DIARIO in Spanish 3 Jul 77 p 15]

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

LEGAL TECHNICALITY FREES COCAINE TRAFFICKERS

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Jul 77 p 13

[Text] "Because the legal period of time for preventive arrest was excessive," yesterday, Judge Paulo Gomes Alves of the 6th Criminal District granted Mario Ferreira, Silvio Marques de Oliveira and Valdemar Barbosa da Silva temporary release. They had been held for more than a month in a house at 31 Barbosa da Silva Street in Rocha, where police had seized marihuana and cocaine after an accusation made in an article in O GLOBO. The decision was handed down in view of a request made by defense attorney Mario Ferreira. The judge extended the benefit of the decision to the three prisoners, but made it clear that the case had not been dismissed, which should have been done so Silvio Marques de Oliveira, who confessed at police headquarters and in court that he was an addict, could be given a toxicological test to confirm or disprove his story. (The length of time for this examination would exceed the legal time limit because the delay and the case would be contingent upon the exam.)

The three men were arrested during a raid at the house at 31 Barbose da Silva Street. Detective Jamil Warwar, passing himself off as a trafficker, was taken to the house by Silvio Marques de Oliveira, who would introduce Warwar to Mario Ferreira, head of the traffickers' ring, to engage in some "big deal." When Mario was preparing to sell a certain amount of cocaine to the detective for 30,000 cruzeiros, a squad of police, strategically stationed near the house, broke into it and arrested the three men as well as two women (who were later released by Judge Paulo Gomes Alves).

6244

CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

POLICE OPERATION IN MARANHAO

Brasilia CORREIO BRAZILIENSE in Portuguese 23 Jun 77 p 20

[Text] The Federal Police Department [DPF] seized 77 tons of marihuana (77,000 kilos) in the municipalities of Santa Luzia, Altamira and Grajau in the State of Maranhao, according to reports made public yesterday by Fabio Wanderley, Director of the Narcotics Prevention and Suppression Division of the DPF. This seizure is the largest now reported at any time and the value of the merchandise is estimated at 385 million cruzeiros, a figure ten times higher than the largest prize from the Brazilian sports lottery. The DPF also seized a large amount of weapons and ammunition. The police operation, culminating in the seizure and destruction of marihuana, which was called "Martelo Bigorno," started on 16 May 1977 and ended on the last day of the month. The operation was based on the latest evaluation of the traffic and use of drugs and established directives for a rapid, coordinated drive on a national scale on marihuana sources. The next DPF operation is to be undertaken in Pernambuco and Alagoas, states in the Northeast which also produce large amounts of marihuana.

Itinerary

Police investigations started in the municipality of Grajau, where four individuals in the districts of Lagoas Dantas and Retiro were charged in flagrante, but whose identity the authorities did not reveal. Police seized seven kilos of marihuana in five plantations and four warehouses in these two localities.

In Cururu district, Jose Rosa, Angico Torto, Inacio, Abraao and Ze Macaco [part missing] police uncovered six marihuana plantations and seized 1,500 kilos of the weed, all ready for sale. DPF agents, assisted by residents of these localities, burned the plantations.

After the Grajau operation, federal police, who were also assisted by local security agencies and the Brazilian Air Force, stormed the municipality of Altamira. Six plantations in the Centro de Bugi district were burned and 2,150 kilos of marihuana were seized. Five plantations were destroyed in

Brejo de Bezerra and 2,000 kilos of marihuana were seized, in addition to 12 kilos of seed. At the Pindare ranch, 5,900 kilos of marihuana were seized and three marihuana plantations were also burned. Seven marihuana plantations were destroyed by police at the Centro de Cocalinho and 1,650 kilos of marihuana were seized.

The DPF seized 15,100 kilos of marihuana and destroyed 12 plantations in the municipality of Santa Luzia, more accurately, in the district of Centro de Joao Paulo. Five plantations were burned and 247 kilos of marihuana were seized in Aldeia. Nine plantations were destroyed in the Centro de Gino and 5,150 kilos of marihuana seized. In the Centro de Policorpo 1,500 kilos of marihuana were seized and the plantation destroyed.

Wanderley also reported that marihuana traffic on the Brazilian border is very heavy and that merchandise originating in several South American countries enters through the Acre, Mato Grosso and Parana and is intended for the majority of the states of Rio Grande do Sul, Parana and Santa Catarina, where it is distributed to consumers.

According to Wanderley, the imported merchandise is of a better quality than the Brazilian, mainly because of its strength. The marihuana that comes in over the border is much more expensive than that grown in Brazil and brings almost double the price. At present, a kilo of marihuana in Brasilia costs 5,000 cruzeiros.

The Treasury Department Police Division of the DPF seized contraband merchandise in the same operation valued at 25 million cruzeiros. The majority of this merchandise was beverages and watches. According to Paulo Gomes, director of the Treasury Department police, in this first six months alone, merchandise valued at 100,961,943 cruzeiros had already been seized.

Federal police destroyed a marihuana plantation and seized 3,000 kilos in Cocal do Cearense, also in Santa Luzia, Maranhao. Plantations in Brejo Novo and Granito were burned and 3,454 kilos of weed were seized. Four plantations were destroyed and 3,660 kilos of marihuana and 22 kilos of seed were seized in Alto Bonito and Cocal dos Cabritos.

Indians

According to federal police agents who took a direct part in operation "Martelo Bigorna," Indian participation in growing marihuana is very slight in relation to the amount cultivated by the white man. The same sources added that the Indian plants more for his own use and reserves a small amount for sale. Several marihuana plantations exploited by Indians were found in the village of Urucu in the Arame district in Grajau and in the Guarajara village in Barra do Corrego.

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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

COCAINE TRAFFICKER ARRESTED IN JARDIM AMERICA

Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 13 Jul 77 p 15

[Text] Narcotics trafficker Jorge Manoel da Silva, known as "Jorge Barracao," was arrested by members of the 15th Military Police Battalion. He is accused of selling cocaine at colleges and gambling places in the Jardim America.

Jorge Barracao was caught in flagrante with 20 packets of cocaine. He also had 4,700 cruzeiros in his pockets from the sale of drugs and a .38 cal. revolver. Police sources reported that he had purchased the cocaine from traffickers in Toninho Bacalhau, on Pao de Acucar Street in Rocha Miranda; from Carrula at Ladeira dos Tabajaras in Copacabana, and from Ari da Rafa on Sao Carlos Hill.

Yesterday, Jorge Barracao was introduced to the press at the 15th M.P. Battalion before he was taken to narcotics headquarters. He said that he had been arrested in 1970 and accused of drug trafficking.

"I was jailed for seven months and released. Then I bought a hut and went to work at the free market selling fruits and vegetables. Two months ago I resumed drug trafficking and have been making almost 5,000 cruzeiros a day."

On the charge of selling drugs in colleges, Jorge Barracao defended himself by saying: "I have four sons, all of them of school age. I wouldn't sell drugs to minors."



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CSO: 5300

BRAZIL

BRIEFS

COCAINE PROCESSORS SENTENCED IN MARICA--Yesterday, Judge Carmine Antonio Savina, Jr sentenced Geremias dos Passos Carlonga to 3 and 1/2 years' imprisonment for participating in the preparation of cocaine in Marica. Ruth dos Passos Carlonga and Petrona Bezerra dos Passos Carlonga were tried for non-appearance and sentenced to 3 years' imprisonment, a 2,500 cruzeiro fine, and costs of the case. Geremias received a harsher punishment because of his past bad record. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 29 Jun 77 p 13] 6244

MARIHUANA, COCAINE SEIZED IN MANGUEIRA--A large amount of marihuana and cocaine was seized by two military police patrols. Two 15-kilo packages of compressed marihuana, 865 cartridges and 12 250-gram packages, a precision scale and its weights, and 300 grams of cocaine were found. No announcement of the traffickers' imprisonment was made. [Text] [Rio de Janeiro O GLOBO in Portuguese 6 Jul 77 p 14] 6244

CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

CARTER DRUG ENVOYS MEET WITH LOPEZ

Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 23 Jun 77 p 22-A

[Article by Hernan Unas]

[Text] Yesterday, at midday, two senior U.S. Government officials met with the president of the republic, Dr Alfonso Lopez Michelsen.

The sole purpose of the visit by the two representatives of President Jimmy Carter is to seek points of agreement making it possible to combat more effectively the groups of drug traffickers operating between the two countries.

The visiting officials are Peter Bourne, White House adviser on narcotics, and Matia Falcon, adviser to the State Department on that same field. Both of them arrived in the country incognito because they wanted their meeting to go unnoticed.

They arrived in Bogota last Tuesday, at 2100 hours, on a Braniff Airline flight.

Minister of Justice Was Present

Minister of Justice Cesar Gomez Estrada and the United States Embassy narcotics division adviser were present at the talks between the two Americans and President Lopez Michelsen.

Minister Gomez went to the meeting shortly after returning from the Atlantic coast where, accompanied by Attorney General of the Nation Jaime Serrano Rueda, he spent some 48 hours initiating judicial formalities to determine under what circumstances the crew members of the [vessel] HK-1291 had been released by Edilberto Altamar de la Cruz, 2nd criminal circuit judge of Barranquilla.

It is worth noting that Minister Gomez is one of the officials who has shown greatest concern over the increased activity of drug traffickers

registered in the country. During the last few weeks, he has been in constant communication with the members of the National Drug Council, an organization entrusted with fighting those who are engaged in that criminal activity.

A Gift of Four Helicopters

EL ESPECTADOR has learned that the proposals made to the Government of Colombia by the U.S. include the gift of three or four helicopters which will be used to detect marihuana fields particularly on the Atlantic coast.

There is also a standing offer to provide technical training for members of the investigating units assigned to combat drug traffickers.

In addition, the U.S. will step up its efforts to advise more effectively those who are fighting this type of criminals.

The U.S. has been giving to the Colombian authorities wide economic and technical assistance in the eradication of marihuana fields and the control of cocaine traffic in view of its serious repercussions on American youth since drug abuse is spreading in a very dangerous way.

Although it has been reported that during the meeting between President Lopez and President Carter's representatives they discussed the possibility of supplying aircraft, it has been impossible to ascertain what type of aircraft, how many of them or under which conditions this operation would take place.

Right after meeting with the head of state, Minister Gomez Estrada attended an emergency session of the National Security Council and this body held a wide-ranging discussion on issues related to the enslaving activities of criminal gangs of drug traffickers on Colombian territory.

The session was attended by Jaime Serrano Rueda, attorney general of the nation; Maj Gen Humberto Valderrama Nunez, director of the National Police; Guillermo Leon Linares, DAS chief, and by Gen Abraham Varon Valencia, Rafael Pardo Buelvas and Gomes Estrada, ministers of defense, government and justice respectively.

As exclusively reported by this newspaper in its previous edition, the aforementioned government body decided on a series of strong measures to curtail drug trafficking.

The announcement on the purpose of the meeting was released by the executive secretary of the National Drug Council, Jairo Eduardo Rivas.

While the National Security Council meeting was taking place, EL ESPECTADOR was told that several helicopters of the FAC [Colombian Armed Forces] were carrying out "low level flights" over large areas in the Guajira and other departments of the Atlantic coast to detect more marihuana fields.

As you may remember, a very large marihuana field was discovered a few weeks ago in the La Guajira area and as a result 12 people were arrested. The corresponding trial went through the judicial procedure called "change of venue" intended to guarantee proper administration of justice.

Last night, nothing was known about the outcome of the field spotting operation launched by the FAC in the north of the country.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DAS ARRESTS FRENCH TRAFFICKERS

Bogotá EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 25 Jun 77 p 15-A

[Text] A ring of drug traffickers consisting of four habitual criminals of French nationality was broken up by agents of the Administrative Department of Security [DAS] Aliens' Division after a three-month investigation.

In addition to capturing the four drug dealers, the agents succeeded in confiscating a large amount of cocaine, false documents, a container with ten gallons of acetone to process the drug and several firearms fitted with silencers.

Two Fugitives

Two of the four French nationals--who have already been placed at the disposal of the 4th criminal circuit judge of Bogota for trial--have been fugitives of the law for several months as they had made successful escapes, one from the National Model Prison and the other while he was being taken to court in Bogota for an examining hearing.

The names of the foreign drug traffickers are: Simon Max Albert, Jean Michel Goiffon, Claude Inocenxi Paul and Fioconci Laurent Rojas.

Dangerous Men

As reported by DAS, Goiffon is wanted by the authorities of his country and he escaped during a transfer. As for Rojas, it is reported that he is under sentence in France where he is also facing a homicide charge. This individual escaped from the authorities of that country, from those of the United States and from the Model Prison and he has been described as the most dangerous of the group.



Charles Laurent Fioconni



Jean Michel Goiffon

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

DAS BUSTS COCAINE LABORATORY AT 'LA ROCHELA' FARM

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 23 Jun 77 pp 1-A, 8-A

[Text] The DAS [Administrative Department of Security] Antinarcotics Unit (UNICONA) has uncovered a modern cocaine processing laboratory in an operation which started six months ago with people being followed and ended yesterday with the seizure of the factory, the confiscation of four kilos of the drug and of a car belonging to the criminals and the identification of another member of the gang.

During the action, motorized DAS agents were engaged in a sensational chase of the criminals' car along the narrow drive leading to the farm with the laboratory. There came a time when, hard pressed by the nearness of the agents chasing them, the man who was driving the gang's car stepped down on the accelerator, the car picked up speed and he lost control of the vehicle which went off the road and plunged into an irrigation ditch alongside the road. The car turned over and its occupants were almost drowned. The detectives helped them to get out of their predicament then arrested them and seized four kilos of cocaine which they carried in the car.

The two captured men who are implicated were identified as Gabriel Jimenez Salazar, an individual with a past record of drug trafficking whom the DAS agents have been following for months, and Hernan Giraldo Munoz.

According to the information released, the factory had been operating for some six months in one of the main rooms of the "La Rochela" farm in the Calija jurisdiction. The farmhouse, as the authorities and the journalists were able to ascertain, is impressively sumptuous and could be considered to be a mansion.

The Operation

According to the information obtained by EL TIEMPO, approximately six months ago some strangers rented the farm of "La Rochela" located three kilometers east of the Calija road near that town.

The new occupants of the house started to behave in a highly suspect manner which was noticed by neighboring farm owners. Two of the new tenants stayed inside the main house of "La Rochela" day and night and they were often visited by people who arrived driving expensive cars.

In addition to the strange behaviour of the two permanent residents, it was noticed that the farm installations, a modern chicken-breeding shed capable of holding at least 2,000 birds, were never used for that purpose. Furthermore, rich grazing fields covering more than 4 hectares were put to waste and only one cow and a calf were seen grazing there.

Finally, last Easter there was a "guest," a man called Oscar Pelaez who gave orders to discontinue the sales of hay which had been previously made to a neighboring landowner. Pelaez arrived with a little girl who made friends with the daughters of several neighboring farmers.

Special agents of the UNICONA Division in the DAS heard about all these facts and they started the necessary investigations. They established that the owner of the farm was a Colombian diplomat who is serving abroad and who asked a rental agency to take care of the leasing and management of the property.

Then, less than two months ago they observed how a covered car arrived in "La Rochela" from which several black sacks, presumably containing a shipment of cocaine paste sent to the traffickers for processing, were unloaded. The mysterious bags were unloaded by the said Jimenez Salazar and Giraldo Munoz in great secrecy and their behaviour was noted by the detectives who had the suspect house under surveillance day and night.

The final operation against the factory owners took place yesterday in the early hours of the morning. Actually, late on Tuesday night, they witnessed the arrival of a luxury "Peugeot" van into which a small suitcase was subsequently loaded.

Sometime later, in the early hours of the morning, Jimenez and Giraldo started the car engine and went down the drive leading to the road to Cajica. They drove south and as they came to the junction with the road to Chia they realized that several DAS patrol cars were blocking the way.

With skillful maneuvering the drug traffickers turned in the opposite direction and tried to get back to "La Rochela" driving at a high speed. At that point, the detectives were in hot pursuit and followed them fast on the narrow road.

When he was only about 200 meters from the farmhouse, the driver of the "Peugeot" lost control of the vehicle which overturned on the left side of the road. It plunged into an irrigation ditch as already stated at the beginning of this report.

To begin with, they captured the two men and recovered three bags of cocaine. But later, when the car was brought out of the ditch in which it had fallen, a third bag full of the drug was found floating in the water bringing the amount of cocaine seized to a total of four kilos.

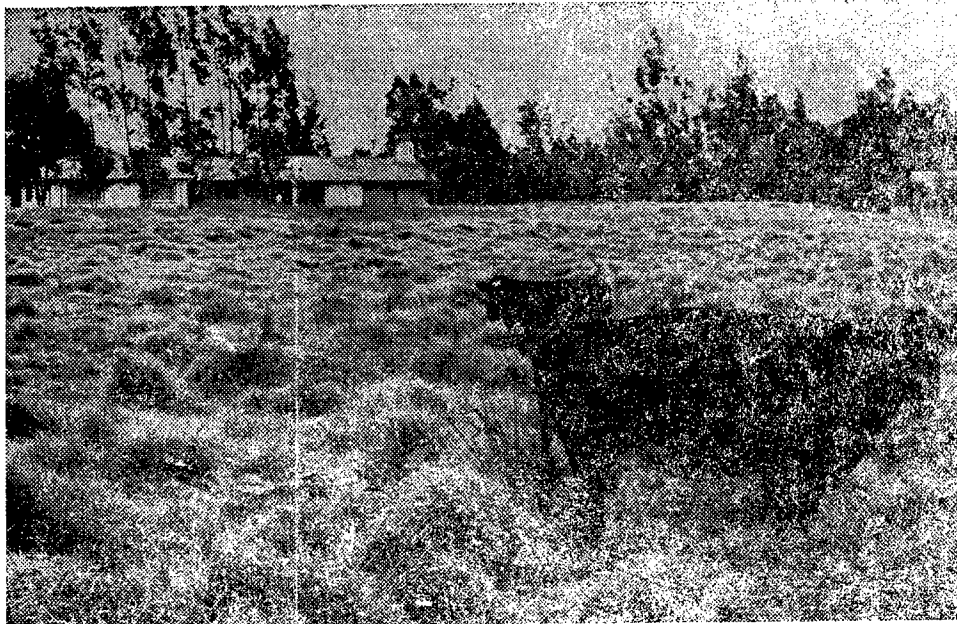
It is reported that the car belongs to a lady who lives in the district of La Soledad and that she had lent it to one of the two men arrested. The lady's husband is reported to be abroad and due back in the country today. Obviously, both of them will be questioned by the authorities to determine their connection with the arrested drug traffickers.

The Laboratory

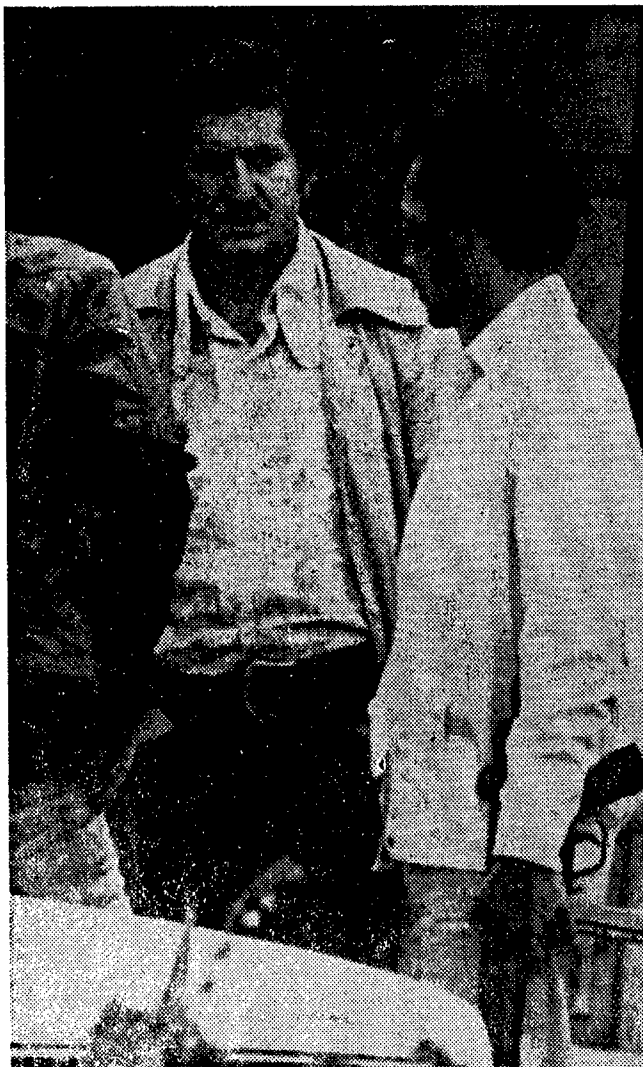
Following the capture of the two men, the house of "La Rochela" was searched. The big and sumptuous lounges were completely empty and only two of the bedrooms contained beds and mattresses where the farm "workers" took their rest.

The laboratory itself was set up in one of the inside rooms. It was equipped with the most modern facilities to extract the alkaloid and contained, among other things, drying lamps, plastic barrels and bottles to store the acetone, a variety of chemical substances and a precision scale. All the wardrobes in the house were crammed with hundreds of plastic bags used to pack the cocaine.

The authorities report that they will investigate whether or not the rental agency who leased "La Rochela" to the gang of drug traffickers had complied with its obligation to verify the use to which the house was being put.



This peaceful scenery, with dairy cattle in the foreground, was the "front" concealing the activities of the cocaine manufacturers inside the house of the "La Rochela" farm in Cajica. In the background, a view of the sumptuous country residence.



Although he refused to be photographed, the cocaine manufacturer Gabriel Jimenez Salazar was taken with a telelens camera. He appears above with a machinegun carrying detective on his left. No shots were exchanged during the arrest of the criminal gang.



A DAS crane pulls the criminals' car from the irrigation ditch where it fell while trying to escape from UNICONA special agents. On the foreground, the bags containing four kilos of cocaine processed in the sumptuous house of the "La Rochela" farm. The criminals were in danger of drowning but the DAS rescued them.

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CSO: 5300

COLOMBIA

BRIEFS

COCAINE SEIZURE NEAR MEDELLIN--Medellin, 22 June (Editorial Office). Agents of the DAS [Administrative Department of Security] section in Antioquia confiscated 7.5 kilos of cocaine last 20 June in the jurisdiction of the Itahui municipality located ten kilometers south of Medellin. The drug shipment was found hidden in the trunk of a truck vehicle occupied by two brothers answering to the names of Gilberto de Jesus and Hector Ivan Gomez Royos who were arrested and placed at the disposal of the Reparto Criminal Examining Court. Officials from the Department of Security, Antioquia section, told EL ESPECTADOR that the two men belong to a group of drug traffickers who used their own vehicles to bring hard drugs into the country from the southern border with Ecuador. They added that since the beginning of June, agents of the DAS have kept a watch on the illegal activities of the group. The operation ended on 20 June, at 1500 hours, with the confiscation of the aforementioned shipment and the arrest of the two men implicated. The confiscated drug was immediately transferred to the DAS section office where formalities were initiated with the support of the regional prosecutor's office for a judicial examination which gave positive results. The Gomez Hoyos brothers are the owners of the vehicle with license tags VS 3531, registered in Rapido Putumayo, in which they were carrying the drug shipment. "Gilberto de Jesus, 38, was born in the town of San Pedro, Antioquia, and Hector Ivan, 34, who was driving the car was born in Bello. Both live in Medellin and their parents are Eusebio and Anna." [Text] [Bogota EL ESPECTADOR in Spanish 23 Jun 77 p 16-A] 8796

MARIHUANA, WEAPONS SEIZED--Combined army and police forces this morning launched an all-out offensive against narcotics traffickers in the area of Manaure, La Guajira Department, near the Venezuelan border. A large amount of marihuana and several modern weapons were seized in the operation in which several persons, some U.S. and Canadian nationals, were arrested. The offensive was launched after a Colombian Air Force helicopter was shot down yesterday by narcotics traffickers in the area. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 23 Jul 77 PA]

CALI COCAINE LABORATORY--Colombian F-2 agents discovered a modern cocaine processing laboratory in a mansion in Cali. A sizeable amount of cocaine was confiscated and three persons arrested: Maria Luis Paredes, Jaime Cardenas and Lucero de Cardenas. [Bogota Radio Cadena Nacional in Spanish 1730 GMT 18 Jul 77 PA]

DRUG HAUL--Pasto, Colombia, 18 Jul--Colombians Luisa Amanda Arango and Guillermina Suarez were arrested tonight by the police while carrying cocaine worth \$5.5 million to Ecuador. The women had stashed the cocaine in two double-bottom suitcases. The arrest was made near the town of Ipiiales, near the border with Ecuador. [Madrid EFE in Spanish 0310 GMT 19 Jul 77 PA]

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

OFFICIALS SEIZE LARGE QUANTITY OF COCAINE

Guayaquil EL UNIVERSO in Spanish 23 Jun 77 p 11

[Text] Huaquillas--Refined cocaine and cocaine paste valued at about 1.5 million sucres, was seized by Peruvian customs agents at the localities of Cancas and Aguas Verdes, when international drug traffickers were trying to introduce it to Ecuador in order to later export it to U.S. markets and to be refined at local laboratories.

At the awesome customs control of Cancas in Peru, where the most famous drug traffickers' gangs had fallen, agents confiscated a suitcase containing 5 kg of refined cocaine which was going to the Ecuadorean port of Guayaquil.

The seizure of the suitcase containing the drug was made when the Peruvian customs agents were checking the luggage of passengers traveling in a bus belonging to the Peruvian firm TEPSA, license plates UG--9877, which covers the route Lima-Guayaquil.

Suitcase Seized

When the suitcase containing the 5 kg of pure cocaine, whose true value is 1.25 million sucres, was seized neither its owner nor the corresponding ticket appeared, which delayed the regular trip of the TEPSA bus until the responsibilities were established.

Later, when the same bus traveling between Ecuador and Peru entered Aguas Verdes, the Peruvian customs police, at another customs check point on the "Bolsico" bridge made another search and discovered that the young girl, Nelly Vargas Lemus, 17, had in her clothing 3 kg of cocaine paste, and it was assumed that she was the owner of the suitcase containing the refined drug.

The young girl Vargas Lemus, resident of Chiclayo, Peru, was arrested by the policemen who said that she had contacts with a gang of international drug traffickers' organization with headquarters in Ecuador.

Aguas Verdes is a town close to the Ecuadorean border locality of Huaquillas.

11634

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED BY INTERPOL

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 20

[Text] Agents of the Pichincha Interpol, under the command of Major Lopez, arrested Grattan Paul Raymond, Irish national, who is a drug addict. The foreigner had introduced the vice to Maria Torres of Guayaquil.

When questioned Raymond confessed that he uses cocaine and likes to attract inexperienced persons in order to induce them to use the drug.

The foreigner will be deported as an undesirable element who causes grave harm to our youth.

The young Guayaquil girl, Maria Torres, was placed in the Izquierda Perez Institute for treatment and rehabilitation, because she, together with the Irishman, has already started injecting herself with high potency hallucinogenics.

Another Arrest

The Interpol agents have also arrested Sergio Herrera who had in his possession 60 grams of marihuana, which was ready to be sold to addicts.

The trafficker, 22 years of age, in his first statement confessed that this is not the first time he had engaged in drug traffic but that he does it on a regular basis, because profits from it are substantial and that is how he makes a living.

After the investigation, he was placed at the orders of the judge of the Pichincha Third Criminal Court.

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CSO:5300

ECUADOR

INTERPOL CAPTURED COCAINE AND MARIHUANA TRAFFICKERS

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 5 Jul 77 p 24

[Text] Guayaquil, 5 Jul (AEP)--A few days ago INTERPOL agents arrested 4 Colombians and 12 Ecuadoreans during a roundup in several sectors of this city. They broke up trading of 20 kgs of cocaine paste.

This morning, Maj Camilo Gomez Bonilla, the chief of the local INTERPOL office, said that in the vigorous struggle to stem trafficking and use of drugs, they arrested the Colombians Morovio Cortez, Luis Dussan, Diego Cardona Renjifo and Pedro Pablo Velez Morales. They were arrested in a building at the corner of Calles Brasil and Babahoyo where they were trading 20 kgs of cocaine paste at 35,000 sucres a kilo with Carlos Campoverde Ordonez, Asisclo Castillo Quinonez, Luis Gonzalo Sevillano Samaniego and Nicanor Izquierdo Flores.

The arrest of this group of drug traffickers led to other hardened users of marihuana. They are Luis Rigoberto Campoverde Chicaiza, Oswaldo Cabrera Castro, Angel Vite Palomino, Carlos Homero Almeida Trivino, Carlos Villalva and Eduardo Paredes Arcentales who were placed at the disposal of the proper authorities.

Maj Camilo Gomez Bonilla, the chief of the INTERPOL Guayas office, added that the first group of drug traffickers had three vehicles, in one of which, a 1977 model 250 light Ford truck, some pounds of marihuana were found. The National Police confiscated the three vehicles.

The chief of the INTERPOL Guayas office also said that small amounts of marihuana were found in the possession of the drug addicts. All the drugs were collected and turned in as provided by Supreme Decree 1139 which put into effect the Law for the Control and Inspection of Drug Trafficking.

The arrest of Campoverde Chicaiza is considered important. He has been zealously pursued for some time as one of the main marihuana distributors in Guayaquil.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

DRUG TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN SANTO DOMINGO

Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 29 Jun 77 p 20

[Text] The Interpol agents based in this country, as well as Pichincha police, have launched an intense campaign and pursuit against drug traffickers in order to destroy all sources of drug addiction and the sale of drugs.

In an operation carried out by Interpol agents in Loja, 30 kilos of cocaine ready to be sent to the interior of the country and then to Colombia, were seized. The Interpol agents exchanged fire with the traffickers, who finally fled, abandoning the drugs. The necessary investigations were undertaken to bring the case under the jurisdiction of the competent judges; the drug was destroyed, in accordance with the stipulations of the Drug Law.

Maria Pardo Vargas and Edison Meza Quezada were arrested in Santo Domingo de los Colorados for trafficking cocaine paste. The arrested people were found with 3,194 grams of cocaine paste in their possession. They were put under the orders of the penal judge. The arrest was made by agents of the subdivision of drugs as well as Interpol agents in Santo Domingo de los Colorados.

In the terminal of the Loja Cooperative in Santo Domingo de los Colorados Ecuadorians Salvador Pardo Vargas and Maria Cresencia Calva Aguirre were arrested for dealing cocaine paste. A kilo of that drug was found in their possession; they were placed under the orders of the sixth penal judge of Pichincha for trafficking cocaine paste.

The narcotics service of the National Police, the source concluded, are implementing an anti-drug plan in order to eradicate the illicit trafficking of drugs in our country.

Photo caption: A great deal of cocaine paste, more than 4,000 grams, was seized from the drug traffickers by Interpol agents. Earlier, the police had been engaged in a shoot-out and later defeated the drug traffickers, who fled, leaving the drug behind. The drug is shown above. Below, one of the weapons seized from the Ecuadorian traffickers.

8926

CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

DRUG TRAFFICKER SENTENCED TO 10 YEARS IMPRISONMENT

Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 24

[Text] Guayaquil--Wilson Dieb Chedraui, an inveterate drug trafficker was arrested about 5 years ago during a joint action in our country by the FBI and INTERPOL of Mexico and Peru. Yesterday, Froilan Avila Castillo, the First Penal Court judge, sentenced him to 10 years imprisonment and fined him 50,000 sucres. The judge acquitted his mother-in-law Amada Juez Chavez and his sister-in-law Azania Jazmina Renata Vanoni who were involved because of their family ties.

He Was Wanted

Wilson Dieb Chedraui was zealously pursued by the anti-drug trafficking police services of the United States, Peru and Mexico. Wilson had important connections and was very influential. He even headed an international gang of refined cocaine traffickers.

INTERPOL never arrested him in our country. He boasted of this when arrested in Guayaquil as a result of the joint action of the Narcotics Division of the American FBI and the INTERPOL combined agents in Mexico and Peru.

Camouflaged Laboratory

At the Salinas bathing resort, especially at Villa Siria, Dieb had a camouflaged laboratory with all technological advances for refining cocaine. This was destroyed during a raid by the members of the joint operation.

After the trafficker was arrested, Dr Tarcisio Mendoza, the First Penal Court judge at that time, began the proceedings in this case. The case went on for 5 years. It ended yesterday when the present judge decreed the 10 year prison sentence.

When the sentence was announced, the judge stressed the negligence of Odilon Jimenez, the First Penal Court secretary, who was responsible for the delay of the case against drug trafficker Wilson Dieb Chedraui. We have learned that Jimenez is on vacation at present.

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CSO: 5300

ECUADOR

BRIEFS

INTERPOL ARRESTS TRAFFICKERS--The DNIE [National Investigations and Narcotics Directorate] and the INTERPOL Pichincha office issued alarming statistics on arrests made in May and June. They indicate a recent violent flare-up in our nation of delinquency, use and trafficking of drugs. DNIE officials reported that at present daily raids are made in an effort to stem these crimes which are a scourge not only in our city but in every province of Ecuador. In many provinces, the police service is inadequate because they have a shortage of personnel. The authorities should find the means to increase DNIE personnel to restrain the expansion of crime in our country. The statistics reveal that during the last 2 months, 49 drug traffickers have been arrested, 124 have been caught using drugs. Also, 32,657 grams of cocaine paste, 58,870 grams of marihuana and two vehicles in which several crime were committed have been confiscated. As can readily be confirmed, these figures reveal the critical conditions our society faces and the serious risk of being led to the road of crime which heedless youths face. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 3 Jul 77 p 24] 8923

COCAINE TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Four drug traffickers, who in one way or another tried to sell drugs, were arrested in Guayaquil yesterday. Fausto Rodolfo Franco was arrested when he had in his possession 7.5 grams of cocaine paste and was trying to sell it because he and his family lived from the product of the sale of drugs. Denis Rovera was also arrested. Eight grams of cocaine hydrochloride, 35 grams of marihuana, 2 22-caliber FOCE revolvers, 40 22-caliber bullets, and 10 polyethylene bags were found in his possession. It should be pointed out that according to statements made by the prisoners, Franco used to sell the drug to Rovera who, in the majority of the cases, took it to Quito for distribution. Fernando Ramos Gonzales is the third person who was arrested. He was buying the drug from Rodolfo Franco and his mother who is also implicated in the illegal business. Finally, Domingo Weisner Franco was also arrested. He worked as an intermediary between Franco and Rovera and made good profits. [Text] [Quito EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Jun 77 p 24] 11634

INTERPOL ARRESTS COCAINE TRAFFICKER--Machala, 30 July--Adelaida Ortega Zerna, a well-known drug trafficker who belongs to an organized band of drug traffickers, was arrested by Interpol agents in the province of El Oro. The arrested woman lives with a well-known drug trafficker who is serving a prison sentence in Machala for drug trafficking. In addition, she has been arrested before for a similar crime. In that crime, her son was also involved, and both of them served time in prison. According to informed sources, the arrested woman had 45 grams of cocaine in her possession, as well as two scales in her home in Machala. Her home was searched by agents as a result of anonymous charges. [Text] [Quito EL COMERCIO in Spanish 1 Jul 77 p 16] 8926

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

COCAINE SEIZED AT CAPITAL AIRPORT

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 22 Jun 77 p 30-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] Cocaine worth some 6 million pesos on the drug black market was confiscated by Federal Judicial Police agents assigned to the Mexico City International Airport.

Upon her arrival from Bogota, Colombia, Cecilia Mejia Montoya was arrested by federal agents as she attempted to bring three kilograms of pure cocaine into our country. According to experts of the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic, the cocaine "could have been cut up to seven times."

The drug trafficker, who is only 22 years of age, supplied the names of the persons who had given her the drug in Colombia for transport to Mexico where it was to have been taken to the United States, according to the instructions she had received.

Maj Roberto Espinosa and his group of federal agents assigned to the air terminal attempted to apprehend Roman Gomez who was named by Cecilia Mejia as the man who was to pick up the cocaine.

Investigations by the federal police were unsuccessful, and they looked in vain for the individual named by the Colombian woman.

The cocaine was found hidden in the false bottoms of the suitcases which the woman was carrying with her.

Maj Roberto Espinosa sent Cecilia Mejia to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic to give her preliminary statement before the Federal Public Ministry agent who in turn handed her over to the 1st District Criminal Judge, Raul Murillo Delgado, on charges of drug possession, import, transport and traffic.

8143

CSO: 5300

MEXICO

CAUSES AND CURE FOR CHILD DRUG ADDICTION

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 1 Jul 77 p 12-A

[Article by Genaro Gonzalez Gaucin of EL MANANA editorial staff]

[Text] Dr Mario Martinez Gonzalez, the head of the DIF [Integral Family Development] Psychology Department analyzed the social causes leading children to turn to drug addiction. He said, "The distorted family dynamics, alcoholic parents with criminal records, prostitute mothers and broken marriages are to blame for children not receiving adequate guidance and using industrial solvents to become intoxicated."

These reports have discussed children and drug addiction. The family situation in which children live is the primary factor and the basic cause for them becoming addicts within a short period of time. Dr Martinez mentioned the following cases:

"DIF has a program called 'Schools for Parents' on which we are focusing along with the Procuraduria de la Defensa del Menor [Law Office for the Defense of Minors]. Parents are summoned to receive social guidance so that they will help in the rehabilitation of their children. Unfortunately, most of those children come from completely distorted families."

He added that to find a father and mother who reach the decision to help their children is unusual. Generally, the parents are indifferent toward most of the children already recorded as drug addicts. Teachers are usually the first to detect drug addiction among minors. They are the only ones to warn the heads of families that their children require attention. The head of the DIF

Psychology Department discussed whether the responsibility of the parents is limited to receiving just a simple talk or an entire guidance program on the care of those children. He said, "From the studies we have made we have been led to the conclusion that parents must be sanctioned legally for their affront to civic responsibility by failing to remove their children from the grasp of vice."

Concerning the intervention of the authorities to solve these cases, Dr Mario

Martinez Gonzalez said, "I consider that the participation of the city council and the DIF has been praiseworthy at all times since the rehabilitation is being carried on in hostile environments. Besides, the mayor is ready to face all aspects of the young people's problems. He supports us in our efforts to help these offenders."

The economic situation which the city faces at present, which is growing at a gigantic rate and the desire of parents to send their children to peddle chewing gum, candies and other goods indirectly contribute to children being enticed into sniffing glue and other industrial solvents, the effects of which have been explained previously.

Finally the psychologist stressed, "We should all help prevent children from becoming drug victims. We should also collaborate with the authorities by making charges against persons who criminally submerge children into the world of intoxication...Nuevo Laredo wants in the future healthy, dynamic youths. Let us contribute to this."

8923

CS0: 5330

MEXICO

COCAINE TRANSPORTED IN CADAVERS

Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 17 Jul 77 p 21

[Text] Culiacan, Sinaloa, Mexico, 16 July--Today, in this city, the Mexican police discovered a gang of drug traffickers that stuffed dead bodies with cocaine and then shipped them to the United States, it was reported here.

The police authorities in Culiacan, in the northern part of the country, added that the gang had a funeral parlor here that served as a front for their illegal activities.

Together with Luis Miguel Rea, head of the gang and owner of the funeral parlor, who was a specialist in funerals and the embalming of bodies, the police arrested five other of his accomplices, the report said.

For the most part, the gang used the bodies of persons who had died violently and could not be identified. The funeral parlor took care of the paper work and prepared the bodies which were then shipped loaded with the drugs.

According to the police, the gang had important contacts in the border cities and in the U.S. who would receive the bodies and give them a "Christian burial," after first removing the cocaine.

CSO: 3010

MEXICO

DRUGS, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED IN FOUR STATES

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 33-A

[Article by Rafael Medina Cruz]

[Text] Drugs worth 40 million pesos on the drug black market were seized by Federal Judicial Police agents under the command of Gen Raul Mendiola Cerecero, in different police actions carried out in four states of the Republic during which 15 drug traffickers were arrested.

Some 13 tons of marihuana, 1,108 hashish tablets, 1,500 toxic pills, which were found in a drug storage and distribution center, were confiscated by federal agents assigned to Oaxaca, Chihuahua, Baja California and Sonora.

The drugs were ready for distribution to border cities and the United States.

Pedro Sosa Gutierrez, Eligio Martinez Sosa, Adelfo Olivera, Juventino and Wilifrido Sosa Antonio and Miguel Sosa Hernandez were arrested in Oaxaca with hashish and marihuana in their possession; Manual Martinez Rodriguez, Raul Estrada Garcia, Francisco Valdivia, Jose Trinidad Hurtado Gutierrez and Rafael Valdez Quijada were arrested in Tijuana, Baja California Norte with 49 kilos of marihuana and 1,500 toxic pills--"red devils"--which were to have been sold in nightspots and bars in that city.

In Santa Ana, Sonora, the judicial agents located a drug storage and distribution center where they arrested Armando Gonzalez Lopez, Rafael Ruiz Peralta, Moises Herrera Medina and Octavio Amezquita Mendez as they were packaging marihuana.

The prisoners and the drugs were turned over to the respective Federal Public Ministry agents for arraignment on charges of crimes against public health.

The investigations will continue on the orders of the judicial officials, in that the prisoners informed on other drug buyers and sellers operating in states adjacent to those in which they were arrested.

MEXICO

MARIHUANA; HEROIN SEIZED IN TIJUANA AREA

Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Jun 77 p 27-A

[Article by Consuelo L. de Avalos]

[Text] In a 24-hour period, the Federal Judicial Police delivered "one of the heaviest blows to the drug traffic," breaking up an international ring, seizing 16 tons of marihuana, six kilos of pure heroin, high-powered weapons, seven automobiles, one truck and arresting 12 drug traffickers, including one woman.

Ricardo Rodea Reyes, regional commander, provided this information and stated that an additional 12 tons of marihuana were hidden in an underground storage area located in "Sainz" canyon, in the vicinity of the "Rodriguez" dam. At the same site, minutes before this discovery, the police found four more tons of marihuana.

The confiscated drugs are estimated to be worth more than 120 million pesos on the drug market, according to Maj Rodea Reyes.

Rodea Reyes said that the dismantled ring has connections in the southern part of the Mexican republic and was working for Filemon Medina Medina, nicknamed "El Chambi," a dangerous drug trafficker, who apparently escaped from this police action.

The first action by the Federal Police resulted in their discovery of six kilograms of heroin in a truck which was parked in the yard of a house on Nacori street, Sonora subdivision, in this city.

Continuing their investigations, hours later the police discovered four tons of marihuana hidden at a certain spot in "Sainz" canyon and 100 meters from it they located 12 additional tons of marihuana, hidden in an underground storage space.

The prisoners are: Vicente Morales Munoz; Gilberto Urbina, a fugitive from a Sinaloa prison; Daniel Mora Lopez; Manuel Angel Ortiz Sanchez; Ruben Palacios Huitron; Jesus Ernesto Palomares; Miguel Angel Medina Uribe; Luis Aurelio Baez; Amado Beltran Salomon and his sister Amalia. Miguel Angel Ortiz and Gustavo Palacios were also arrested and turned over to the Public Ministry.

MEXICO

MARIHUANA FIELDS DESTROYED; ARMS SEIZED

Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 8 Jul 77 p 3-B

[Text] A few days ago, the PJF[Federal Judicial Police] and members of the Mexican National Army destroyed several marihuana fields in village ranches near Galeana, Nuevo Leon. An unspecified amount of already packed drug, 12 [sic] presumed drug traffickers and 11 high-powered firearms were captured. Alfredo Aaron Juarez Jimenez, the agency coordinator of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, provided the above information. He added that an auto carrying 181 kgs of marihuana was also intercepted.

He said that on the fourth of this month, the PJF learned that on a ranch at Galeana, Nuevo Leon, there were several fields of marihuana. The corresponding investigations were made immediately.

Near the village of Potrero Prieto, they discovered 12 marihuana fields. Genaro Garcia Bustamante, Pedro Escobedo, Juan Garcia Rosales, Santana Cruz Rosales, Jose Cruz Marin Torres, Gustavo Escobedo, Arturo Escobedo, Javier Escalon Olivares, Isidro Escalera, Jose Escobedo Moreno, Pedro Sanchez Torres, Santana Torres Moreno, Patricio Escobedo Moreno and Jose Garcia Escobedo were arrested.

At the home of Santana Torres, the PJF agents found two istle sacks of marihuana. At the home of Patricio, two more sacks of the drug were found and in the home of Jose Garcia 1 kg of marihuana seeds **was** discovered.

The marihuana fields were immediately destroyed. Only samples for legal purposes were gathered.

All the prisoners made full confessions that for some time they planted and harvested marihuana and also that they recently harvested a large amount of the drug and sold it.

8923

CSO: 5330

MEXICO

BRIEFS

TWO TRAFFICKERS KILLED--Culiacan, Sinaloa, 30 Jun--Two drug traffickers were shot to death this morning as they were completing a drug deal in a barrio in the outskirts of town. An anonymous telephone call informed the judicial police authorities of the incident. On a road which leads to Campo 10, the police found the bodies of the two drug traffickers in an abandoned automobile. They are: Paulo Corona Hernandez, age 28, and Juan Carrasco Padilla, 42. The former, who lived at 366 G. Andrade Street North, was struck by 20 bullets and had his left arm blown off, as well as his lower jaw; the latter was killed by eight gunshots. On the scene, police agents headed by Jaime Cota Felix found more than 50 cartridge cases from high-powered weapons: AR-17, 7.62 [mm] Japanese machine gun, caliber .45 and 9 mm. Judicial Police director, Marco Antonio Camarena Felix, said that Corona Hernandez and Carrasco Padilla were shot at close range as they were completing a cocaine deal. (A small amount of this drug was found in the automobile.) Judging by the weapons used to kill Corona Hernandez and Carrasco Padilla, this was a fight between drug traffickers, the chief of police said. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Jul 77 p 26-A] 8143

GONZALEZ: HELP COMBAT TRAFFICKERS--Mexico City, 2 Jul--Professor Carlos Hank Gonzalez, city manager, said yesterday that in view of the impossibility of assigning police officers to all of the primary and secondary schools of the Federal District, it is imperative that volunteer squads of parents be formed to combat drug trafficking in these educational institutions. Hank Gonzalez made this statement during a working trip that he took through the districts of Cuauhtemoc, Azcapotzalco, Gustavo A. Madero and Miguel Hidalgo in which, before groups of parents, he indicated that "it is necessary for us to organize ourselves to protect our children from these rings of drug traffickers." He made the following comment: "How is it possible for these rings which are a handful of individuals to do more than we who are stronger and have the law on our side?" "The answer is simple," he added. "They are organized and we are not. Therefore, what we have to do is organize ourselves and organize ourselves well to protect our children and to overcome our problems and deficiencies." The city manager told the parents that it is not a matter of

provoking confrontations with the drug traffickers but rather of informing the authorities of the Department of the Federal District when they have information about such cases. The latter will take immediate action to handle the situations. "The secret to how successful this action will be depends upon the citizens' organization," he asserted. [Excerpt] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Jul 77 pp 1-A, 14-A] 8143

TRAFFICKER AND PLANE CAPTURED--Hermosillo, Sonora, 1 Jul--An American light plane which was transporting 750 packets of marihuana--1 kilo each--to the United States was chased by the Federal Judicial Police in another airplane and forced to land at the Caborca airport; however, the pilot left the aircraft in the middle of the runway, preventing the police from landing there. This stratagem of the drug trafficker forced the Judicial Police to land several kilometers from Caborca, near the Altar Desert, and prevented them from capturing the pilot. When he reported this, the commander of the State Judicial Police, Margarito Mendez Rico, said that the drug trafficker's plane had been followed from Hermosillo. When it arrived in that city, it was not inspected; and the pilot fled quickly, followed by the police who ordered him by radio to land. Once he did so, he made it impossible for the federal police to do the same. He said, however, that Leroy Francis Lambert had been arrested as he was driving a 1977 Ford Maverick in which there was clothing for three persons and weapons of various calibers. The Governor's Office reported that this foreigner had entered the country in an airplane along with two of his countrymen and that this confirms the police suspicion that he is connected with drug smuggling. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 2 Jul 77 p 26-A] 8143

TONS OF MARIHUANA SEIZED--Federal Judicial Police agents, supported by the Army, seized 21 tons of marihuana in Sinaloa which was ready for shipment by air to the United States. The marihuana is worth more than 50 million pesos on the drug black market, according to the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic. Additionally, 14 members of one of the most powerful rings of drug traffickers in the state were arrested. Both the prisoners and the drug were turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent of Culiacan. The drug was hidden in huts in the town of "Las Juntas de Mayo," 30 kilometers from the Sanalona dam. The prisoners said that the drug had been gathered by light planes for shipment to the United States. The prisoners are: Olegario Rodriguez Rodriguez, Jose Alberto Ruiz, Pablo Astorga Lozano, Oscar Angulo Picos, Rodolfo Chavez Picos, Miguel Castro Montiel, Juan Chaires Picos, Daniel Angulo Picos, Gilberto Chavez Picos, Manuel Angulo Rodriguez, Adolfo Gutierrez Loera, Bernardo Rodriguez Figueroa, Heberto Perez Lara and Mario Chavez Picos. In the huts which were being used as storage spaces, the police also found 6 kilograms of opium gum, hydraulic jacks, cutting machines, scales and other implements for the packaging of marihuana. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 28 Jun 77 p 31-A] 8143

DRUGS, TRAFFICKERS SEIZED--Mexico City, 20 Jul (INFORMEX)--Federal Judicial Police this morning uncovered and destroyed 40 poppy fields in Yextla, Tlacotepec Municipality. The fields were planted with 295,520 poppy plants. Police also uncovered and burned 4,040 marihuana plants in Coalcoman, Michoacan. Federal Judicial Police in Baja California arrested Alejandro Gutierrez Guterrez and Evaristo Gonzalez Sandoval who were involved in the buying and selling of narcotics. Federal agents confiscated 1 kilo of heroin, 210 marihuana joints, four high caliber guns, half a kilo of opium gum, a scale, a light truck used for distributing narcotics and a shotgun. [Mexico City INFORMEX in Spanish 0330 GMT 21 Jul 77 FL]

REHABILITATION OF GIRL GLUE SNIFFERS--Dr Mario Martinez Gonzalez, the head of the DIF [Integral Family Development] Psychology Department, said, "Many girls have become addicted to industrial glue and other solvents. For this reason the DIF system will have to double its operations to provide care for these cases." He added, "We already have the place in which to detain these girls who besides being drug addicts also take alcoholic drinks. For this reason, we are not giving out information so that they may be rehabilitated." The head of the DIF Psychology Department stressed, "Unfortunately, girls have also been trapped into industrial inhalants addiction. We will do everything possible to solve this problem soon." Dr Martinez Gonzalez mentioned that he already has several juvenal delinquents who will be sent not later than Thursday to the Guemes Rehabilitation Center. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 4 Jul 77 p 1-B] 8923

APPOINTMENT OF CUSTOMS INSPECTORS--Manuel Adame Garza, the Nuevo Laredo Frontier Customs Administrator announced that yesterday four administrative officials, a warehouseman and a customs guard were appointed inspectors [interventores habilitados]. They immediately took over their duties. The new supervisors are Pedro Pedraza Novoa, Beatriz Santamaria Vidaurri, Eugenia Casso Pinto, Ramon Zaragoza Martin del Campo, Carlos Castro Sanchez and Manuel Vazquez Centeno who were assigned to these posts by direct orders from Guillermo Velazquez Centeno, director general of Customs. Pedro Pedraza Novoa, Beatriz Santamaria Vidaurri, Eugenia Casso Pinto and Ramon Zaragoza Martin del Campo had held the posts of administrative officer of the local customs office. Carlos Castro Sanchez served as a warehouseman and Manuel Vazquez Centeno as a customs guard. Adame said that since yesterday the new inspectors began carrying out their duties. He said they will do their work well since when they were chosen for their posts, they proved they can serve Mexico. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 8 Jul 77 p 1-B] 8923

STAMP CAMPAIGN AGAINST ADDICTION--A special edition of 2 million 80-centavo postage stamps commemorating the "National Campaign Against Drug Addiction" was recently authorized. The Mexican government is carrying on a national campaign against drug addiction. The main objectives are finding and destroying illegal fields, the investigation and prosecution of drug trafficking through the Attorney General's office because these are federal crimes. This is a continuing national campaign. It is such an important social service that it should be given wide publicity. The issuance of a commemorative postage stamp is an effective means of doing this so the appropriate decree was issued. Shortly,

these stamps will be put into circulation. Until the supply is exhausted, they will be valid for payment of all classes of postage without regard to the value of the current general editions of ordinary stamps. Of this edition, 20 percent will be turned over to the Oficina Filatelica Mexicana [Mexican Philatelic Office]. If after 1 year from the time of the emission of the stamps, the OFM still has stamps left over and the General Directorate of Post Offices reports, under its responsibility, that it has exhausted its allotment, the remainder of the stamps will be returned to the Treasury which will place them at the disposal of the General Directorate of Post Offices for their preferential sale by the Mexican Postal Service. [Nuevo Laredo EL DIARIO in Spanish 23 Jun 77 p 6-C] 8923

DYE SNIFFER ARRESTED--Alejandro Moreno Gomez was captured sniffing from several bottles containing tinta fuerte [a dye]. He was sent by the highway to El Carrizo and La Habana. When arrested, the youth was intoxicated from sniffing the dye. [Text] [Nuevo Laredo EL MANANA in Spanish 2 Jul 77 p 3-B] 8923

AIRPLANE CONFISCATED--The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] arrested three foreigners in two different actions in Magdalena de Kino and "El Caballo" checkpoint. In the first site, a light plane with traces of marihuana was confiscated and in the other, 45 kgs of marihuana. The PJF agents found in Victor Monreal's hangar at the Magdalena municipal airport the Cessna 210 light plane registration No N-782-XB. Monreal is now in prison for a crime against public health. While checking the plane, the agents found in it traces of marihuana and only the pilot's seat. Near there, American Michael Clark, the plane's pilot, was arrested. He confessed that he planned to take a load of marihuana to the United States. Also, at "El Caballo" checkpoint, 5 kms north of Guaymas, the PJF agents arrested American Smith Darley and Frenchman Shifford Bernard in a pickup camper in which 45 kgs of marihuana were hidden. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 29 Jun 77 p 4-B] 8923

TREATMENT OF DRUG ADDICTS--Yesterday, Dr Jorge Burguete Rovira, director of the Health Center of the Secretariat of Health and Assistance, reported that drug addicts are given psychological rather than medical treatment. By order of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office, once they are in our hands, addicts are given 6 months ambulatory treatment. Physical reactions of only 2 percent of the drug addicts are normal. The remaining 98 percent of those who intoxicate themselves, suffer such great ill effects that their bodies react when the drug is suddenly taken away from them. He gave the example of the common tobacco smoker. This type of person becomes addicted due to psychological dependency. When he stops smoking, there are no physical reactions by his organism. He said, "Of all the drug addicts assigned to us, only rarely do we find extreme cases in which because they used drugs during a very long period of time, they became physically dependent on them requiring hospitalization for treatment leading to rehabilitation. On this type of drug addict, the treatment is to give him substitute drugs in gradually decreasing amounts until his organism is no longer poisoned. Dr Burguete added that for the complete rehabilitation of drug addicts, the Health Center provides group therapy in

addition to psychological treatment. He explained that group therapy consists of meetings of addicts who discuss their tendencies toward drug addiction. These sessions are similar to those of Alcoholics Anonymous. [Text] [Matamoros EL BRAVO in Spanish 5 Jul 77 p 3-B] 8923

SEIZURE OF 21 TONS OF MARIHUANA--Mexico, D. F.--PJF [Federal Judicial Police] supported by members of the Mexican Army detached to the state of Sinaloa confiscated 21 tons of marihuana, packed in 460 sacks, ready to be sent by air to the United States. The Attorney General's office said that the grass would cost more than 50 million pesos on the drug black market. PJF agents and members of the army also took by surprise 14 members of one of the most powerful gangs in the state. The drugs and the prisoners were placed at the disposal of the agent of the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office in Culiacan, Sinaloa. The traffickers had the drugs hidden in small huts in the village "Las Juntas de Mayo", 30 kms from the Sanalona dam. The huts belong to the "Del Carmen" ranch in the municipality of San Ignacio. During interrogation, the people presumed guilty of a crime against public health said that the drugs were to be picked up by American light planes and taken to the United States. [Text] [Nogales DIARIO DE NOGALES in Spanish 29 Jun 77 p 4-B] 8923

DRUG TRAFFICKER RELEASED ON BAIL--Yesterday, Xavier Luevano Mesta, the head of the penal board of the Coahuila District Court, informed EL DIARIO that Raul Molina Perez, who had been sentenced for a crime against public health, will be released on bail. Judge Jose Becerra Santiago sentenced him to 4 years imprisonment after he was found guilty. The sentence was then confirmed. The defense requested of the Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal at Torreon, Coahuila, that Molina Perez be released on bail. This was granted and the bail was set at 15,000 pesos. EL DIARIO learned from other sources that up to yesterday the bail for his release had not been posted. It may be posted sometime this month. The PJF [Federal Judicial Police] agents had arrested Raul Molina and turned him over to the Federal Public Prosecutor's Office who remanded him to the Coahuila District Court where an order for his imprisonment was issued at the end of the 72-hour constitutional limit for determining his legal status. Although the defendant pleaded innocent of the charges and appealed to the Tribunal, the decision by Jose Becerra Santiago, the District Court judge, was upheld. After he was found guilty, he was sentenced to 4 years imprisonment. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 3-A] 8923

TRAFFICKERS UNDER MODIFIED IMPRISONMENT--Yesterday, official sources at the State District Court informed EL DIARIO that the Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal at Torreon, Coahuila, had modified the orders of imprisonment against Jose Luis Rodriguez Gomez, Mauro Bedolla Aguilar and Jesus Rogelio Sanchez Espinoza for crimes against public health under the categories of possession, distribution and sale of marihuana. The sources added that the prisoners were detained at the Centro de Prevencion y Readaptacion Social at Saltillo, the capital of the state of Coahuila after they were presumed guilty of these charges. The defendants had been arrested by the police near Saltillo, Coahuila and subjected to penal proceedings for the crimes against public health under the aforementioned categories. At the end of the 72-hour constitutional limit, they were officially imprisoned: Jose Luis Rodriguez Gomez, for the crime

against public health under the categories of acquisition, possession and distribution of marihuana, Mauro Bedolla Aguilar for possession and sale of the evil grass and Jesus Rogelio Sanchez Espinosa for possession of the drug. However, the Eighth Circuit Unitary Tribunal at Torreon, Coahuila, modified the order of imprisonment and declared them imprisoned solely for the crime of possessing marihuana because it considered the evidence insufficient to prove their acquisition, distribution and sale of that drug. The prisoners are being held under the charges of possessing marihuana at the Centro de Prevencion y Readaptacion Social at Saltillo, Coahuila. [Text] [Piedras Negras EL DIARIO in Spanish 7 Jul 77 p 3-A] 8923

DRUG ADDICTION INCREASE--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 2 Jul. According to the findings of scientific research conducted by the Sinaloa Association of Publicists, drug addiction in the state is increasing, particularly in Culiacan where this vice affects 72 percent of the young people. Drug addiction includes the inhalation of paint thinner and cement, psychotropic drugs, marihuana and other drugs. Several cases have been discovered by the Institute of Juvenile Integration in which the addicts are only 10 years of age. In such cases, according to medical prognoses, the rehabilitation process could take up to 25 years. This information was released yesterday during the annual meeting of members of the Sinaloa Association of Publicists which was held in Culiacan. The governmental authorities have requested the cooperation of this group to initiate a campaign to meet the problem. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 3 Jul 77 p 26-A] 8143

MARIHUANA SEIZURES--Yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police seized more than 5,000 kilograms of marihuana in Nogales, Sonora and Apatzingan, Michoacan and arrested seven drug trafficking suspects. Jesus Soto Mendoza was arrested in Michoacan at a place called Mina de Alacranes with 4,690 kilograms of marihuana he had stashed in a room which was an improvised storage space. Elsewhere, truck driver Apolonio Garza Arizpe [was arrested] in the America barrio, city of Monterrey. He was transporting 700 cases of imported wines and liquors in a trailer, without the required permit. The contraband goods are worth approximately 250,000 pesos. The drug trafficking and smuggling cases were both turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 6 Jul 77 p 8-A] 8143

MARIHUANA CONFISCATION--Hermosillo, Sonora, 19 Jul. Today, the Federal Judicial Police confiscated 1.5 tons of marihuana and arrested two of the drug traffickers who were riding in a pickup truck with license plate number 473-ZGT. The arrests were made at the Nogales line as the drug traffickers were approaching the United States border. They had planned to take the drug into Arizona. Tomorrow, they will be turned over to the Federal Public Ministry agent, along with the vehicle and the drug. The prisoners are Jesus Gonzales Tadeo and Francisco Guerrero Villa. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 10 Jul 77 p 32-A] 8143

HEROIN, COCAINE, OPIUM BUSTS--More than 6 kilograms of drugs--including opium gum, "cut" heroin, cocaine and opium--were taken from nine alleged drug traffickers in several towns in the state of Sinaloa. The drugs are worth nearly 20 million pesos. The prisoners are Manuel Serafino Quinones de la Rosa, Virginia Alvarez Gutierrez, Eugenio Arguelles Moreno, Guillermo Cue Medina, Oscar Medina Cebada, Humberto Quintero Araujo, Ildefonso Medina Cebada, Apolinar Aviles Castro and Saul Valenzuela Carrillo. The Federal Judicial Police investigated two clandestine laboratories in which the drugs were being manufactured and were able to locate them after several days. The labs contained the latest drug-processing equipment. At the lab sites, the police arrested the nine persons who are alleged to be responsible for crimes against public health and confiscated from them vehicles, one 45 cal. pistol and one 9 m. submachine gun. The police seized a total of 2.56 kilograms of heroin and "cut" heroin; 3.5 kilos of opium and opium gum and 460 grams of heroin [sic: amount of cocaine not specified]. [Text] [Mexico City EL SOL DE MEXICO in Spanish 2 Jul 77 p 8-A] 8143

MARIHUANA FIELDS DESTROYED--Mazatlan, Sinaloa, 8 Jul As of yesterday, the Federal Judicial Police had destroyed 430 marihuana and two poppy fields during five flight missions in helicopters and airplanes. It is estimated that some 150 hectares of drug fields were destroyed during the last few days, many of which had fully developed plants ready for harvesting. This information applies to findings solely in the municipality of Concordia. Federal Judicial Police group chief Leopoldo Castro Avila reported that destruction activities with herbicides will continue when the weather improves. At present, it is inimical to such operations. He added that the police had also confiscated 30 kilos of marihuana already cut and pressed, 10 kilos of poppy seed and 20 kilos of marihuana seed. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Jul 77 p 33-A] 8143

SONORA JAIL BREAK THWARTED--Hermosillo, Sonora, 9 Jul The escape of drug trafficker Jesus Jimenez Lopez who was confined to the State General Penitentiary was thwarted when Judicial Police agents captured six individuals from whom they confiscated 150,000 pesos earmarked for the payment of bribes. Investigations showed that the drug trafficker was to have been flown to Sinaloa in a light plane immediately after escaping from jail. His accomplices were waiting for him outside the jail in an automobile bearing American license plates. Several prison guards and officials are also being investigated. Those who are shown to be responsible for the break attempt will be arraigned, on the basis of the prisoners' statements. They are: Dolores Alonso Figueroa, Miguel Oleta Gaytan, Adalberto Jasimoto Duron, Ramon Burruel, Mario Figueroa Lopez and Valentin Corrales Millan. The official Judicial Police report states that Jasimoto and Oleta Gaytan were arrested in a pool room opposite the General Penitentiary. These men supplied the names of their accomplices. The six prisoners admitted that they had everything ready for the escape of Jimenez Lopez, including the "buying of penitentiary jailers and officials." Jesus Jimenez Lopez was arrested in March 1976 aboard a shrimp boat in which he had arrived at the port of Libertad with a cargo of 15 tons of marihuana. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 10 Jul 77 p 31-A] 8143

POLICE AGENTS SEIZE HEADQUARTERS--Cuernavaca, Morelos, 8 Jul. Deputy Judicial Police chief Rodrigo Luis Lagunas and 11 agents seized control of the Preventive Police headquarters in the municipality of Emiliano Zapata, held Maj Agustin Rosario Hernandez at gunpoint and beat Commissioner Bernardino Garcia. A complaint was filed with the Federal Public Ministry agent by the director of Public Security, Lt Col Marco Antonio Castilleja, who stated that the Judicial Police agents had stolen a carbine and two boxes of 7 millimeter cartridges, the property of the Secretariat of National Defense which had supplied this materiel. The investigation will be handled by district judge Rafael Corrales Gonzalez, who is to order the arrest of the Judicial Police officers. Recently, Luis Lagunas wounded the commander of the Jonacatepec, Morelos Judicial Police, Ignacio Diaz Rabagan, when the latter arrived to collect his pay at the police station. The deputy chief charged him with being in collusion with drug traffickers and requested that he resign and surrender his pistol. When Diaz Rabagan refused to do so, the deputy police chief attacked and shot him. Ignacio Diaz is in serious condition at the Civil Hospital of this city. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 9 Jul 77 p 34-A] 8143

DRUG, VEHICLES SEIZED--Tijuana, Baja California, 5 Jul. Drugs which on the black market are worth 80 million pesos and four automobiles were seized today by Federal Judicial Police agents at a house in the town of San Luis Rio Colorado, which is adjacent to Mexicali. There were no arrests. The police action was conducted by federal agents this morning when they learned that drug trafficking activities were taking place in a house on Chiapas and Calle 19 in this town. The police approached the house cautiously and, finding no one at home, conducted a search of the premises. In the cellar of the house, the police found 8 kilos of pure heroin packaged in plastic envelopes, 17 kilos of cocaine and 5 tons of marihuana. Four automobiles were also confiscated at the scene. The coordinator general of the anti-drug campaign in the northeast, Antonio Garcia Torres, reported that the drugs were confiscated from a well-organized, international ring of drug traffickers which was operating along the border, principally at San Luis Rio Colorado. Elsewhere, it was reported that 2 days ago federal agents had also arrested the brothers Mario and Jorge Alberto Sandoval with 250 kilos of marihuana in their possession which they had planned to take into the neighboring country to the north. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 6 Jul 77 p 35-A] 8143

HEROIN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Hermosillo, Sonora, 20 Jun--A half ton of marihuana and 550 grams of heroin were seized here by the Federal Judicial Police and five drug traffickers were arrested. Communal farmer Encarnacion Paez Soto and laborer Maximiliano Benitez Tizoc were captured at the Agua Fria ranch in the municipality of Trincheras de Santa Ana, as they were preparing to ship the half ton of marihuana to the United States. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 27 Jun 77 p 27-A] 8143

MARIHUANA CONFISCATED ON RANCH--Uruapan, Michoacan, 29 Jun--Some 40 tons 100 kilograms of marihuana were confiscated early this morning on the El Limon ranch and drug trafficker Jesus Santos Mendoza was arrested by Federal Judicial Police agents. This information was supplied by Enrique Rosano Maldonado, coordinator of the antidrug campaign in the 3d Region which includes the states of Michoacan, Guerrero and Jalisco. He added that the prisoner was accompanied by other drug traffickers who escaped after a shootout with the agents. No one was wounded. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Jun 77 p 33-A] 8143

HEROIN BUST IN GUADALAJARA--Guadalajara, Jalisco, 29 Jun--Some 7.5 kilos of heroin, worth 8 million pesos, were confiscated last night by the Federal Judicial Police and 15 drug traffickers were arrested in a house located at Vallodolid and Miguel Rojas streets, in the Santa Elena subdivision, in this city, where a modern laboratory for the processing of raw opium had been installed. The police also found large caliber weapons, scales, test tubes, mills and several containers of chemical substances, packaging envelopes, procaine, novocaine and other materials used in the processing of raw opium. The prisoners include: Eduardo Rojo Barrera, Jesus Castellon Barrera and Pablo Hernandez Valencia, considered the drug traffickers most wanted by the police throughout the country and abroad, since they are held responsible for the processing of heroin and its shipment to the United States. The other prisoners are: Jose Luis Valencia Mendoza, Ricardo Gonzalez Nuno, Julian Carlos Garcia Esperanza, Jose Luis Arce Martinez, Rafael Jimenez Infante, Julian Romero Gonzalez, Leonardo Ramirez Valdivia, Francisco Javier Arce Martinez, Esael Duran Juarez, Jose Castaneda Torres, Eduardo Zendejas Marquez and Blanca Margarita Guerra Alvarado. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 30 Jun 77 p 33-A] 8143

MARIHUANA SEIZURES IN MORELOS--Cuernavaca, Morelos, 20. Jun. Drug trafficker David Reyes Rivera was arrested yesterday by Judicial Police agents who confiscated 100 kilos of marihuana which he was transporting in his automobile in the vicinity of Cuautla. Reyes Rivera said that he had been engaged in marihuana trafficking for several years. He was captured after the Judicial Police had arrested two marihuana addicts who, when questioned, gave a personal description of the drug trafficker and his car. Reyes Rivera's arrest was kept secret, as was the seizure of five tons of marihuana ten days ago by the same agents. This case is still being kept under wraps. The prisoner revealed that he lives at 56 La Cruz Avenue, in Tizapan, Federal District and that he worked alone so as not to arouse suspicions. He was arrested yesterday after a traffic accident. Reyes Rivera was riding in his automobile with license plate number LYF-432 from the state of Mexico. Capt Luis Rodrigo Laguna Duran, deputy chief of the Judicial Police, reported that the drug trafficker is being interrogated and is expected to name his accomplices, criminals who are members of powerful rings. [Text] [Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 21 Jun 77 p 26-A] 8143

SO: 5300

PANAMA

BRIEFS

COLOMBIAN TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Panama, 26 June (AFP). It was reported here today that the Panamanian anti-drug brigade had broken up a ring of Colombian drug traffickers arresting seven of them and seizing 154.5 pounds (66 kilos) of cocaine. They arrested the Colombians Gerardo Sanclemente, Jorge Enrique Villegas Hurtado, Florencio Munoz Ruiz, Hernan Ayala Jaramillo and Jaime Arango Alzate and the Panamanians Manuel Castillo and Guillermo McKay. According to the investigation, the apparent ring-leader was the Colombian Sanclemente who was established in Panama as an import-export merchant using his business as a cover to traffic in narcotics which he brought from Bogota for shipment to Miami in the United States. [Text] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Jun 77 p 13-A] 8796

DRUG SEIZURE REPORT--Inspector Octavio Rodriguez, chief of the Narcotics Section of the Fiscal Investigations Department of the Finance and Treasury Ministry, has told LA REPUBLICA that in the first 7 months of this year Panamanian authorities have arrested 16 foreign drug traffickers and seized a total of 85 kg of cocaine worth approximately 45 million balboas. "Our struggle against drug trafficking," he said, "is not only carried out at Tocumen Airport, but also along the borders and at ports." [Panama City LA REPUBLICA in Spanish 18 Jul 77 pp 1-A, 2-A PA]

CSO: 5300

PERU

BRIEFS

COCAINE TRAFFICKING METHODS--An international mafia of traffickers of cocaine hydrochloride operating in our country is probably sending the drug abroad by using occasional travelers. They pay the travelers' way to the United States and back, and give them a traveling bag. The drug is hidden in small plastic bags which are put in dark vials used for fine perfume. The carriers also place the drug in underclothing or in wide pants belts. This method of transporting drugs has been detected in the case of several travelers who have arrived in Colombia and New York as tourists from Peru. The Interpol operating in those countries has alerted Peruvian police, who are investigating the case in the Jorge Chavez International Airport here. The carriers used by the mafia to get drugs out of the country are youths of both sexes who are going on vacation. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 22 May 77 p 24] 8926

COCAINE PROCESSING LABORATORY--The police are thoroughly investigating a secret cocaine processing laboratory which was discovered in a building in Chaclacayo. The discovery was made as a result of a fire, which was apparently caused by the explosion of acids used in the manufacture of cocaine. The explosion caused a fire inside the building, located on the first block of Los Alamos. One of the occupants of the building suffered serious burns. When the police arrived, they discovered that in a specially conditioned area there were jars of sulphuric acid, two small high-precision scales, small cylinders of ether and other articles used by drug traffickers in the manufacture of cocaine. Police have arrested two women and a man in connection with the case. Their names have not been released. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 30 May 77 p 17] 8926

COCA LEAVES ON OPEN MARKET--Coca, the sale of which is prohibited in Lima and in all places below 500 meters altitude, is being sold openly in stores and taverns in La Parada, especially near the Mayoristas and Tres de Febrero markets. In making this announcement, the health inspector of the city of Lima, Dr Juan Succar, mentioned sanctions against incompetent public officials who cover up such sales. Succar did not go into more detail on the matter because, he said, he did not want to alert stores in other areas where there will also be surprise visits, as there were in La Parada. He also said that it had been proven that in the Castilla market where there was an inspection yesterday, pork which had been "eaten by rats" had been sold on an earlier occasion. The inspector made the inspection with technicians of the city of Lima, as well as

those of the cities of Lince and Miraflores, which will undertake similar inspections in all markets with the cooperation of all the town councils in greater Lima, in accordance with an agreement, Dr Succar said. [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 3 Jun 77 p 5] 8926

DOGS PROVIDE ASSISTANCE--Important discoveries of cocaine and other drug shipments in the Jorge Chavez International Airport have been made by the police dogs of the Civil Guard, trained for this type of investigation. To date the police dogs have interrupted the transportation of nearly 5 kilos of cocaine hydrochloride which were to be flown out of the country, LA PRENSA has learned. For example, the day before yesterday a young hippie was "nabbed" by two blood-hounds belonging to the Civil Guard, which "smelled" the half kilo of cocaine which was hidden in his underclothing. Lester Briand Morgan, 22, was prevented from traveling to Mexico and is now being interrogated so that investigators can find out where the drug came from. The dogs trained by the Civil Guard for detecting all types of drugs--especially cocaine--have now been working more than a year in the international airport, "with optimal results," according to a police chief. "They have detected 46 cases of attempts to smuggle drugs out of the country." [Text] [Lima LA PRENSA in Spanish 5 Jun 77 p 18] 8926

LABORATORY FOUND IN CHACLACAYO--The police are conducting investigations in order to break up a drug trafficking organization which has ties with an international drug trafficking network. The activities of the organization came to light a few days ago when a secret cocaine processing laboratory was discovered on the first block of Los Alamos in Chaclacayo. During the course of the police investigation, it has been established that the processed drugs were sold to a Colombian drug trafficker whose identity has not been released in order to protect the secrecy of the investigation. The drug ring was able to smuggle a considerable amount of basic cocaine paste out of the country; the cocaine was valued at several million soles. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 5 Jun 77 p 51] 8926

TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--Police in Caraz (Ancash) have discovered a band of criminals who were processing and trafficking basic cocaine paste. At least 60 persons were directly or indirectly implicated in this case of drug trafficking. It is known that two of them are people who held the confidence of the people of Caraz; these people have been placed in different police units so that they can be questioned extensively. This band operated for a year and a half in Caraz, and maintained houses on the outskirts of the city. There they had constructed cement tanks for soaking coca leaves. The raw material for the manufacture of basic cocaine paste, in this case coca leaves, was brought from the mountains in trucks which arrived at the secret laboratories without anyone noticing. After the basic cocaine paste was obtained, it was taken to Chimbote where foreigners bought it. The investigations into this case have been carried out in secret by local police authorities. [Text] [Lima EL COMERCIO in Spanish 13 Jun 77 p 27] 8926

CSO: 5300

VENEZUELA

INTERNATIONAL DRUG RING DISCOVERED AT UNIVERSITY

Caracas ULTIMAS NOTICIAS in Spanish 26 Jun 77 p 20

[Article by Jose Luis Olivares]

[Text] Police authorities have discovered a great amount of trafficking and consumption of drugs in the Central University of Venezuela, informed sources revealed yesterday.

The sources indicated that for some time police have been on the trail of an international band of drug traffickers operating inside the university campus, using young university students who are addicted to marihuana, cocaine and other drugs as "runners."

It was also revealed that the drug traffickers had established their headquarters in the schools of engineering and architecture, taking advantage of the fact that these schools are attended by a great many members of the upper class in Caracas.

It was explained that affluent youths bring the drugs on campus in fancy cars, many of which even have special license plates for the National Congress and other public and private organizations.

The above-mentioned schools are sources of drugs for the rest of the university as well as outside areas.

It was also pointed out that university authorities are aware of drug trafficking on campus, and have implemented a series of measures to control the situation.

The sources explained that three university guards caught an individual a few days ago with a bag full of marihuana, and turned him over to police authorities. The three guards were threatened with death by the gang of traffickers and had to be transferred off campus.

It was revealed that two of the guards were named Radames and Herrera, respectively, but the name of the third guard was unobtainable.

It was revealed unofficially that investigations have led to a girl nicknamed "La Negra," who apparently is an important person in the drug trafficking gang operating on the university campus.

It was also mentioned that numerous citizens are being tried in the courts for drug trafficking on that campus.

8926

CSO: 5300

NIGER

BRIEFS

DRUG TRAFFICKERS ARRESTED--In the past week, nine persons involved with drugs were arrested, 10.25 kilograms of Indian hemp and 22 capsules of amphetamine were confiscated by police. [Excerpt] [Niamey SAHEL HEBDO in French 20 Jun 77 p 21]

CSO: 5300

REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

MANDRAX ABUSED, TAKEN OFF MARKET

Johannesburg THE STAR in English 21 Jul 77 p 5

[Text]

Because Mandrax, the sleeping drug, has been widely abused, the manufacturers have decided to take it off the South African market. Production has already stopped.

This was a voluntary decision. The drug will now be available only until existing stocks held by pharmaceutical wholesalers and retailers are exhausted.

Mandrax was included in schedule seven of the Drugs Control Amendment Act last year, which rated it with such dangerous habit forming drugs as morphine and cocaine. Drugs on this schedule are regarded as having some medical application yet are so dangerous that powerful controls have to be applied.

CSO: 4420

DENMARK

CHIEF OF NARCOTICS POLICE ASSESSES DRUG DEATHS

Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 25 Jun 77 pp 10-11

[Article: Police Attorney Volmer Nissen: "Cause of Death: Drug Abuse"]

[Text] Police Attorney Vollmer Nissen talks about narcotics abuse in the background of his participation in the 27th assembly of the United Nations' narcotics commission. He says that more than one person dies from drug abuse each week in Denmark.

The UN Narcotics Commission has now held its 27th assembly in Geneva with the normal lack of attention from the news media.

This is not only due to the lack of newspapers in Denmark now. In Switzerland too a certain apathy from TV, radio, and press was noted with regards to reports on the series of meetings. There may be many reasons for this. For one thing, other troubles in the world, such as the energy crisis and environmental pollution, have to an increasing degree demanded attention. A second reason is that narcotics abuse in its present appearance as a worldwide problem will soon be more than 10 years old. And a third reason is that the dangers, which were announced by the delegates from many countries, were depressing and the outlook for the future was dark unless more effective measures were taken to fight this threat against the health of the populations, and it seems that this has not been a very attractive subject to report on.

However, since problems cannot be solved by avoiding them in silence, I will here as a Danish representative report a little on the situation seen from an international point of view.

The global pattern for the drug abuse can generally be summarized by saying that an increasing tendency can be confirmed towards dependence upon heroin and abuse of cocaine, that the same holds for the products of the hemp plant--especially liquid hash or hash oil--that there is increased abuse of stimulating agents (pep pills and vacation pills [sic]), barbiturates (sleeping pills), and sedatives, and more frequent

use of mixed drugs taken by injection, and drug abuse spreading to all social strata.

Especially for Europe it was emphasized that there was a strongly increasing heroin abuse, continuously a very great abuse of amphetamines in countries such as Sweden and Portugal, tendencies in a series of West European countries to abuse sleeping pills of a barbiturate-like nature such as methaqualone, of anaesthetics such as pentazocine and liquid cannabis, which was seized in more than 13 countries. The increasing cocaine abuse was especially discussed by Switzerland, Italy, and Portugal, but Sweden's representative also mentioned that the extent of the abuse in 1976 in that country was disturbing. The Federal Republic mentioned that there were 523 deaths as a result of drug abuse in 1976 as compared to 139 in 1974 and 188 in 1975.

These tendencies could naturally also be recorded in Denmark to a more or less pronounced degree. And our cases of death as a consequence of drug abuse appear to be far more disturbing than those in the Federal Republic, if we roughly estimate Denmark's population to one-twelfth of that of the Federal Republic. For the three years mentioned the number of deaths in this country oscillated between 52 and 62. And these are minimum numbers, since we are not told about deaths due to drug abuse from our hospitals. During this year up to the time when this article was written--the 19th week--28 cases of death were recorded, i.e. far more than one per week. Five cases of death were reported in 1968!

Both Sweden and Canada emphasized the importance of limiting the demand for drugs, while drug abuse was seen as a product of many factors, especially the availability of the drugs, the social structure, and the means which are available for education, health, and social welfare. Measures for limiting the demand were thus not the only ones intended to limit the supply, both the legal as well as the illegal, but information, education, and treatment with an eye on social reintegration were also to be included. In addition to the effort by society, the importance of the family was especially pointed out. On behalf of the Danish delegation, City Medical Officer Knipschildt, M.D., declared that he fully agreed with these points of view. It was noteworthy how more and more of the commission's members and we, the other observers from participating countries, agreed that the narcotics abuse was not to be considered any more as only a legal and a medical, but also as a psychological and a social problem.

Everybody agreed that an effort by the police to stop the drugs on the way from the producer to the consumer was the main condition for being able to tackle the problem at all, but that even the strongest effort in this regard would only have a short-range effect if it was not combined with an effort on other fronts.

Regarding the illegal traffic in narcotic products between countries, the representative of the international police organization, Interpol, pointed

out that while a 30 percent general decrease in illegal supplies of morphine to Europe could be noted, the amount of morphine confiscated in the form of pills increased by 150 percent. He also pointed out that as compared to 1975 there was an increase in the flow of heroin from Southeast Asia to Europe of 130 percent; the two most important centers for this traffic were Bangkok and Amsterdam, while an important part of the flow now originated from Malaysia.

The role of the liquid hash or the cannabis oil in the illegal supplies is still quite mysterious, since the confiscations are sporadic and very scattered geographically. It is not sure whether it is because the consumers are doubtful about the application--there is talk about a strong hallucinogen with a frightening effect similar to that of LSD--or due to difficulty in finding the drug, which is easy to hide in bottles or plastic containers. For the third year in a row a decrease was noted in the amount of hallucinogens seized, which might indicate that these drugs have started to lose their attractiveness.

In addition, extensive confiscations are being made in Europe of stimulants, especially amphetamines, which are being produced in large amounts in Holland to cover a market in Scandinavia, especially the Swedish market. The Dutch representative, who to some extent was under fire not only with regards to stimulants but also with regards to heroin, admitted that Amsterdam is the focus for the heroin smuggling in Western Europe. Bangkok is almost always the shipping port and most of the runners are Chinese, many recruited in Malaysia. A tendency to also use Europeans has recently been noted. Many flew to Holland via Copenhagen, Oslo, Paris, Brussels, or Rome. The railroads to Holland are also used to a great extent. The increased effort by the police could be detected in the record confiscations in 1976 of a total of 171 kg of heroin as compared to 5.9 kg in 1975.

The corresponding Danish numbers are approximately 150 grams in 1975, barely 17 kg in 1976, and 5.3 kg so far in 1977. So we are quite far behind, but we are about to get in on the ride.

Among countries outside Europe we must mention the United States, whose delegation reported an increase in confiscated heroin of 15 percent as compared to 1975 or a total of 515 kg as compared to 451 kg in the previous year. Most of it came from Mexico after the so-called "French Connection" was stopped in cooperation with France and Turkey. The Mexicans, with the help of plant-killing agents sprayed from helicopters, now have destroyed many of the poorly accessible poppy fields in the highland, which, it is hoped, will improve the situation.

Of the confiscated heroin, 7.6 percent came from Southeast Asia. Most of it was smuggled from Bangkok. However, Hong Kong is still the center for the financial backers and the controllers of the traffic from Southeast Asia.

The confiscation of cocaine has also grown rapidly. In 1976, 763 kg were seized as compared to 653 kg in 1975 and 555 kg in 1974. The coca leaves are cultivated in Bolivia and Peru, and in these countries as well as in Ecuador and Colombia they are converted to cocaine base and cocaine hydrochloride in illegal laboratories. Smuggling to the United States with Bogota as the center takes place with ships and airplanes. Of the 635 tons of marijuana which were seized in 1976, the majority came from Mexico and Colombia and a very small amount from Jamaica. Morocco was the main deliverer of hash, of which 5.6 tons were seized. No numbers were mentioned for liquid hash, only that it came from Pakistan and was at the same level as in 1975. The American concept of the marijuana-hash problem was that only an effective control of the cultivation of the hemp plant could solve the problem.

However, not all the reports were on utter misery. The commission was thus able to report that during 1975 and 1976 two important treaties had come into being after being ratified by more than 40 countries including Denmark.

The 1972 protocol on changes in the 1961 individual treaty on narcotics thus went into effect on 8 August 1975. It gives the International Control Council, which will monitor the compliance of individual countries with the individual treaty, greater possibilities for controlling the legal trade and for taking action on the illegal trade with drugs.

The treaty on the so-called psychotropic drugs also went into effect on 16 August 1976. A long series of drugs was thereby included in various degrees of control measures, which for the strongest drugs are very similar to the individual treaty concerning the naturally growing, classic forms of narcotics, opium, cocaine, and hash. It does not involve only the strong hallucinogens such as LSD, stimulants such as amphetamines and Preludine, sleeping pills, the barbiturates, and sedatives such as Restenil, Valium, and Librium.

It is good to conclude with the report on how Turkey's poppy harvest was brought under control so that part of the harvested raw opium does not reach the illegal market any more to be converted to morphine base, which has caused the base to disappear from the Danish market. This shows what can be accomplished with international cooperation staged by the United Nations. The secret of how Turkey succeeded in controlling its harvest of opium poppy is a change in the harvesting method, whereby the medically valuable drugs, codeine and morphine, can be extracted from the harvested poppies under effective control in a factory.

Instead of making cuts in the unripe fruit capsule of the plant, whereupon the raw opium seeps out and is scraped off, the field is harvested as a common grain field and the plants are collected as straw and driven to the factory where they are subjected to a chemical treatment. Technical experts from the United Nations' fund for fighting narcotics abuse have been in charge of building the factory in Istanbul where it will process all of

Turkey's harvest of collected opium poppies from 1978. A good idea for changing the harvesting method used for thousands of years to benefit industrial production? This is indeed what "The Danish Sugar Factories" wrote in a letter to the Foreign Ministry in April 1970.

8958

CSO: 5300

DENMARK

BRIEFS

PAKISTANIS ARRESTED--In one of the largest night raids so far the narcotics police in Copenhagen in cooperation with several police administrations on Sjaelland have arrested 18 Pakistanis for extensive narcotics trade. Several were imprisoned yesterday in secret court meetings, while others had to be released due to lack of evidence. The operation, which the top leadership in Copenhagen police as late as yesterday afternoon tried to deny the existence of, started between 0100 and 0200 hours the night before last. A total of 60 policemen participated. Everywhere the Pakistanis were caught at the edge of their beds, but the hope by the narcotics police of finding considerable amounts of drugs and cash were not satisfied. According to the information obtained, no drugs or cash of any significance were seized. On the other hand, it is maintained that during subsequent searches accounting material was found which is believed to have originated from extensive narcotics trade. According to orders from Assistant Police Director Ole Noergaard, they tried to keep the raid completely secret from the public. The police administration went so far as to have the Pakistanis appear in a normally closed department of the city court in the Courthouse at Nytorv. All doors were closed at 1600 hours, even though the constitutional hearings were still going on. The comment by the assistant police director to BERLINGSKE about the case is briefly: "no comments." At around 1800 hours five of the Pakistanis were imprisoned for 14 days. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 24 Jun 77 p 7] 8958

HELSINGOR RAID NETS 22 ARRESTS--Twenty-two members of a narcotics band were arrested last week during an operation in Helsingor. The operation was carried out by Helsingor police narcotics division in close cooperation with the Europe patrol from Copenhagen. During the arrests hash was seized with a market value of 300,000 Danish kroner, and also 10 grams of amphetamine, 0.4 grams of heroin, and 35,000 kroner in cash. Six of those arrested were jailed charged according to Paragraph 191 of the penal code, which can result in prison for up to 6 years for trade in euphoric drugs. Seven of those arrested were Swedes, and all of them were expelled from Denmark. Six warnings were also given, two were given fines for illegal trade with euphoric drugs, and one was released without being charged. One of the reasons for the operation in Helsingor is that at a meeting between Swedish and Danish police, where American narcotics experts also participated, warnings were given that in 5 years the same conditions would prevail in Scandinavia as in the United States today. The police in Helsingor know that in 1977 5 drug addicts from Helsingor died; one in Copenhagen, two in Sweden, and one in Helsingor. All died from an overdose of heroin. [Text] [Copenhagen BERLINGSKE TIDENDE in Danish 22 Jun 77 p 3] 8958

ITALY

POLICE CATCH 650 KILOS OF HASHISH AT ROME AIRPORT

Rome L'UNITA in Italian 10 Jul 77 p 11

[Text] A hole in one of the wooden boxes lined with zinc betrayed the dealers and allowed specially trained dogs to smell the characteristic, penetrating odor of the drug. That's how yesterday at Fiumicino customs officials were able to put their hands on what is very likely the largest amount of hashish ever seized in Italy: 650 kilos, whose values on the Italian retail market is around six billion lire. The quality of drug seized--1200 "cakes" hidden in ten boxes--is called "acapulco gold" by its slang term and is considered one of the most prized and expensive.

The drug was loaded on board Pakistan Airways flight 717 in Damascus and was to have been claimed in Stockholm: but a check by customs put an end to the senders' plans. While the plane was parked at the Leonardo da Vinci terminal a guard went on board to perform a routine baggage check and became suspicious when he saw the ten boxes that had cleared Syrian customs as souvenirs. The agent returned to the plane a short while later with an anti-drug dog--one trained to sniff out drugs--who immediately went after the containers, barking. The boxes had been carefully lined with reinforced zinc precisely for the purpose of preventing the escape of the drug's odor, but the nails used for securing the internal wood construction also penetrated the zinc lining, thus ruining the plans of the person who sent the drug.

In Sweden the 1200 "cakes" of hashish in all likelihood would have been distributed to medium and small "drug dealers," and sold throughout Europe.

Yesterday's confiscation, a real record, goes with numerous others completed just during the last few months at the Fiumicino airport by the customs agents, greatly increasing the record of antidrug operations that included: 33 kilos of heroin, 290 kilos of marijuana, 106 kilos of hashish confiscated and 55 dealers arrested.



A dog trained for anti-drug operations sniffs one of the boxes of hashish confiscated at the Fiumicino airport.

8644

CSO: 5300

TURKEY

BRIEFS

TURKS POSSESSING HEROIN APPREHENDED--A 3 month "heroin search" conducted by the West German Narcotics Police has concluded with three separate operations which resulted in the arrest of 9 Turks and the seizure of 3 kilograms 490 grams of heroin, valued at 1 million 360 thousand marks (10 million 880 thousand Turkish liras). [Text] [Istanbul HURRIYET in Turkish 21 Jul 77 p 3]

OPIUM POPPY PURCHASES--Opium poppy capsule purchases began in Afyon this morning. The purchases will continue in 30 different centers until the end of August. The opium poppy production is expected to reach some 25,000 tons in Afyon, Isparta, Burdur, Usak and Kutahya this year. In Konya, where purchases will begin within the next few days, the production is expected to be around 6,000 to 7,000 tons. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 1600 GMT 15 Jul 77 TA]

HEROIN SEIZED--Security forces seized more than 1 ton of pure heroin worth 8 million liras in Saraymagara Village in Gaziantep's Yavuzeli District. Six guns, six pistols as well as a large number of bullets were seized in a search conducted in the village. Security officials said that 18 persons, including a woman were taken into custody following the search. An investigation is underway. [Ankara Domestic Service in Turkish 2000 GMT 16 Jul 77 TA]

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END